

SUPREME COURT:
The Quebec Decision

FOREST FIRES:
Raging Infernos

CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

Maclean's

AUGUST 24, 1998

HAUTE CANUCK

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cuisine and
wine come
of age

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executive chef at
Canadian Pacific's
Hotel Halifax

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Music:	"Water sale that flooded"
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Website:	www.cbs100.com

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36 Haute Canuck

Corvallen food and wine have come a long way. Chefs such as southern Salford's Michael O'Connell are cooking up magic with local ingredients, with markets like creating fine, award-winning vineyards, and gourmet wines across the country are growing, with pleasure.

12 The Quebec decision

Premier Lucien Bouchard's government faces a landmark Supreme Court ruling that could dramatically alter the rules and tone of the sovereignty debate.

Chief Executive is suspended from Lixie after allegations of questionable accounting practices at the theatre company

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A second spate of forest fires, particularly in Western Canada, drove thousands from their homes, and some experts say global warming is to blame.

14

Raging infernos

A second spate of forest fires, particularly in Western Canada, drove thousands from their homes, and some experts say global warming is to blame.

From The Managing Editor

Stopping kids from smoking



When the House of Commons returns to work next month, MPs will find a present on their Order Paper. It is Bill S-13, which was passed by the upper house on June 10, and now enjoys the rare distinction of being a Senate private member's bill that actually has a fighting chance of becoming law (introduced, sponsored

and stage-managed by Ontario Liberal Senator Colin Kenny, S-13 is an anti-smoking bill aimed at reducing tobacco use through massive public-education campaigns to discourage kids from starting to smoke by persuading them smoking is stupid. It would create a youth education fund wholly (and inevitably) financed by the tobacco industry to the tune of \$120 million a year through a new federal levy that would add 50 cents to the price of every carton of cigarettes sold in Canada. (At present, Ottawa collects \$2 billion annually in tobacco taxes, but spends just \$20 million on programs to discourage smoking.)

S-13 would raise Canadian spending on education and prevention to the same level as in California, a state with about the same population as Canada. There, the adult smoking rate has dropped by 40 per cent since the inception of vigorous anti-smoking campaigns authorized under Proposition 56 in 1988. Eleven per cent of Californians aged 15 to 19 are smokers—compared with almost 30 per cent of Canadians in the same age bracket.

Smoking-related diseases kill 40,000 Canadians every year, which is almost as many as died during the entire Second World War. Kenney offers a striking "what if": "If two 747 aircraft were to crash in Canada

every week for a year, that would be 40,000 deaths. After the first three or four crashes, there would be a national inquiry. But consider, the government would be thrown out of office." But neither the public nor the government gets outraged by 40,000 smoking deaths.

What, realistically, are his chances of getting the Commons to approve S-13? There are three obstacles. The first is a potential procedural challenge on the grounds that the Senate cannot, constitutionally, propose tax measures. Kenney got around that in the Senate by calling his financing device a "levy" rather than a "tax." Second, the Commons subcommittee on private members' business must agree to accept S-13 as a "votable" bill—that is, a measure to be given full debate and brought to a vote, rather than be talked out as most private members' measures are. The third obstacle, says Kenney, is Paul Martin. As keeper of the tax system and as the senior minister from Quebec, where the tobacco lobby is strongest, the finance minister has the power to stop S-13 in its tracks. But the fact that Martin has been content so far to sit back and watch the bill's progress leads Kenney to hope that he will back it.



Cigarettes on sale in a French restaurant.

While he waits for the Commons to return, Kenney is travelling the country, networking, briefing MPs, and joining nearly 300 organizations from coast to coast behind S-13, and organizing voters in all 300 federal constituencies to write their MPs in support of his bill. This sort of lobbying is second nature to Kenney. Now 54, he's been working the corridors of power ever since he was 25, when Pierre Trudeau brought him to Ottawa to run the Ontario desk at the Prime Minister's Office. If he can't make it happen, who can?

Geoffrey Blainey

Newsroom Notes:

Gon appetit

Talk about hardship assignments: For this week's cover package, which investigates the burgeoning interest in fine food and wine in Canada, Senior Writer Joe Chudley had to do plenty of grueling field-line research. Like going to some



Chudley (right) with chef Michael Stodolander in search of great food.

of the best restaurants in the country and spending his knee time difference between salmon ter and scrump, or peering a wine list, seeing a \$2,200 Bordeaux and not gaging on his pet's four.

While interviewing chefs and restaurateurs across the country, Chudley says he was impressed by the wit, wit—and energy—of the young kitchen whizzes who are quietly revolutionizing Canadian cuisine. "A lot of people who

cook at home secretly dream of turning professional, but many don't realize how hard a restaurant chef works," he notes. "Eighty-hour weeks, constant pressure—and to get ahead these days they have to be not only good cooks, but great salesmen to boot. Assistant Managing Editor Ann Downer Johnston and Senior Editor Patricia Hinchey oversaw the cover package, which was designed by Art Director Nick Burnett.

The Dark White Spirit

BACARDI Superior

Canada's value

I surprised and appalled me that Canadian's most anxious response to the decline in our currency was that they felt trapped into staying home. ("That sinking feeling," Cover, Aug. 10). Our country is full of beautiful vacation sites that are often being taken for granted. Maybe this is exactly what we need to realize what we have here at home, and give our tourists in distress a boost. After speaking with many tourists in Gage who have made it their alternate vacation site, I have yet to find a disappointed vacationer. Come on, Canadians, in vacationing here in home really is all that best!

Donna's House
Guelph, Ont.



Seaketchewen Wheat Pool president Leroy Lewis leaves the reader with a feeling that the weaker Canadian dollar is bad news for producers of agricultural goods. This is simply not the case. The Canadian agriculture industry is to a great deal export-based, and as such the decrease in the value of the dollar is good news. This is especially true for commodities like wheat, whose price is the current crop year is somewhat depressed. In the end, a weak Canadian dollar relative to the U.S. dollar is welcome news for producers who have to sell their living producing goods that must compete in some of the most competitive markets in the world.

David MacLean,
Maclean's Magazine

Department of agricultural economist,
University of Saskatchewan,
Saskatoon

It is quite alarming to see our dollar quickly become the "pess of the North" in spite of the arguments that a cheap currency is great for exports and for jobs. However, we have yet to find the real impact of the high cost of imported U.S. goods. For years, Canadians

have endured wage rollbacks, belt tightening, layoffs and plant closings instead of enjoying a payroll for the years of sacrifice, we are witnessing a decline in overall income, higher taxes and a plummeting currency. In the past, the Canadian economy was tied to that of the United States. When it prospered, we prospered. The United States is now booming with 4.5 per cent unemployment, but our economy is relatively stagnant with almost twice the jobless rate. In spite of unemployment reinsurance from Finance Minister Paul Martin that our fundamentals are strong, the money markets remain unconvinced as is reflected by their valuation of our currency. It's time to evaluate our participation in the North American Free Trade Agreement. We have been in a serious economic decline since its inception.

Michael O'Neil,
Windsor, Ont.

It's too late to prevent a two-year bubble, but why not set out to reverse the long-term trend? And that means focusing on productivity. A century ago, our great north-west resources became known as untapped wealth for Canada. At present we are a resource frontier city by 1915, with more iron going through its Great Exchange than was going through the half-century old Chicago Board of Trade. It is not said to have 10 millionaires, two fewer than Toronto, and was seen in Europe as the world's greatest primary resource market. We made a veritable mess, and probably the former Crown land and the Canadian Wheat Board's monopoly have robbed growers and businesses of denationalizing freedom. This crippled cattle and hog growers, and meat packers and other food processors. Our tangled politics have prevented us from building a vibrant private and government industry for development. And one thing is certain: our dollar won't turn around if we keep our western resources treasure house strapped by politics.

Don Bacon,
Regina

You summarize the effects of the loonie's loss in value vis-à-vis the U.S. dollar in a laudatory manner. However, you perpetuate a common misconception when stating "the Canadian dollar has generally done much better against other countries' currencies." Over the past year, the loonie has fallen 82

Top level golfer

During Lorie Kae's final round for the CPGA championship in Toronto last weekend, I spoke briefly to her at the 107th hole, but otherwise kept out of her way ("Straight shooter," Special Report, Aug. 10). Later, along with two ladies from Toronto, I sought refuge under a tree to escape the heat. When they learned I was from Prince Edward Island, they asked me about Kae and I told them that she is a quietly smart, very open and friendly. A few minutes later, Kae spotted me and came over and teasingly intimidated me for not speaking to her earlier. As she walked back to her shot, it was with estranged pride that I turned to the two ladies and said "See, this is what she's like." Who could not love Lorie Kae?

F. E. Green,
Charlottetown

per cent compared with the U.S. dollar, but has dropped 32.2 per cent against the French franc, 31.6 per cent against the German mark, and 31.3 per cent against the Swiss franc. Other than being selectively weak, the loonie's performance has been generally feeble, reflecting the rest of the world's perception of Canada's political situation, and location and economic policies.

Just Ho,
Vancouver

Manure as an asset

The problems of manure disposal may well be over ("Manure big stick," Cover, Aug. 10). Scientists at Kelowna's College of Agriculture, and 11 per cent of manure the world's livestock operations can be an asset rather than a liability. The stuff can be converted into compost pellets with no smell whatsoever. No need for land disposal at all. All that is needed to convert the manure into the compost pellets is a toilet source, such as straw, woodchips, corn cobs or even material from landfill sites.

Adrian J.
Blyth, Ont.

The Nisga'a Treaty

Fred Nakam does not need a "herald" ("A treaty that threatens the Indian agenda," Peter C. Newman, Aug. 10). What they seek is a fair and just settlement of rights that are recognized by the Supreme Court of Canada and affirmed by our Constitution. Would Newman prefer these issues to be resolved by "warriors" with blackboards and

THE MAIL

civil disobedience? A negotiated settlement to an issue of long-standing national importance must, a threat, it is a solution. As to his suggestion that the Nisga'a Treaty is, in effect, a constitutional amendment, let us remind him that our own word of the Constitution is changed and, contrary to his assertion, none of the new authorities, especially federal or provincial, powers. Let's also be clear that the financial package to the Nisga'a is \$160 million paid out over 25 years with further implementation funds totalling \$40.4 million over five years. This amount represents compensation money to third parties, estimates for federal provincial cost sharing, or government contributions that will help both the Nisga'a and other residents in the area. (Others' comment and road upgrades). Rather than looking to an American author, perhaps Newman should consider the words of Nisga'a leader Joseph Genuis who has said: "The Nisga'a are willing to relocate their way into Canada, not out of it."

Tom Whitley,
Chief federal negotiator-Nisga'a Treaty Settlement

Peter C. Newman is wrong about the consequences of the Nisga'a Treaty. The treaty represents a modern, balanced, thoughtful approach to negotiation and resolution of conflicting claims. It will stand as one of the great achievements of Canadian electoral democracy. It is the result of 22 years of formal negotiation between Canada and the Nisga'a Tribal Council, signed eight years ago by British Columbia. An agreement in principle has been available for public scrutiny since Feb. 25, 1990. The final agreement is not significantly different from that. More than 250 public and information meetings have been held since 1987. The area of the land ceded to the Nisga'a is less than 10 per cent of that recognized as traditional territory of the Nisga'a people. Private property has not been subject to prohibition. The tax-exempt status for the Nisga'a will be phased out. Certainly concerning land use in the Nass Valley will be established. The deal cedes the country to a whole and to British Columbia in particular goes well beyond these things. This agreement calls for celebration. We owe thanks to the negotiators from all parties for their imagination, persistence, sense of responsibility and understanding of what our country needs.

J. R. Newell,
Whistler, B.C.

What an effort has this Nisga'a settlement achieved! It has perpetuated the concept of the oppressor and the oppressed, the superior and the victim. Does it put all Canadians

Healthy Bites

Let the "consumer" beware

The trend to avoid fat may result in reduced intake of meat and dairy products, excellent sources of several important nutrients. But, according to the latest



Leaner fats and oils are often hidden in meats, foods such as dairy products and deep-fried foods.

data, Canadians get much more of their fat from added fats and oils — such as shortening, margarine and vegetable oil — than from red meat and dairy products combined. And when these fats are partially hydrogenated,

as is usually the case in deep-fried foods, pastries, chips, crackers and other such snack foods, beware. The resulting trans fats are the worst type of fat for the heart.

Dairy foods and the art of BLOOD PRESSURE maintenance

Numerous scientific studies from around the world have consistently shown that dairy products help lower blood pressure in males and females of all ages and ethnic origins. This, in turn, greatly reduces the risk of heart disease and stroke.

The focus has long been on reducing salt intake, which has had only limited impact on blood pressure control, and experts are now recommending increased dairy consumption. The combination of calcium, potassium and magnesium in milk products is believed to counteract the effect of salt on blood pressure. One more reason to consume the recommended two to four servings of milk products every day. A serving is 250 mL (1 cup) of milk, 175 grams (½ cup) of yogurt or 50 grams (size of half a deck of cards) of firm cheese.

From the Dairy Bureau of Canada

A baby's best option

Breastfeeding reduces an infant's risk of food allergies and infections and may also — according to a new report by the Canadian Pediatric Society, Dietitians of Canada, and Health Canada — offer some protection against sudden infant death syndrome.

New Australian research indicates breastfeeding may also help prevent obesity and diabetes later on in the child's life. Not to mention that it helps mom shed those extra pounds gained during pregnancy. To nourish herself and her baby, the breastfeeding mother needs a well-balanced diet that includes three to four servings of milk products daily.

THE BEST TIME TO EXERCISE IS ANYTIME

Many people avoid exercise in the early morning for fear of heart attack. However, while studies show that fatal heart attacks are most

likely to occur during early morning hours, exercise is not responsible. While just getting out of bed in the morning may raise the risk, regular exercise reduces it, whatever time of day.



on an equal basis? No. It has successfully polarized the population. Canadian Indians will forever be apart from the rest of the people in Canada. Can we undo the wrongs of the past? Definitely no.

Paul Brinkley,
Barrister

Year-round school

How can the B.C. Teachers' Federation be opposed to the notion of year-round education on the basis that "studies have not shown any advantage" ("Skinner in class," *Illustration*, Aug. 19)? That means that these so-called studies have shown a disadvantage either, and if nothing else, year-round use of ever more costly facilities would ease the strain of the financial burden of education. Perhaps it's time for a robust host to the federation's collective position, to clear the cobwebs surrounding their self-absorptive practices.

Richard Hetherill,
Victoria

Has anyone considered the social impact of year-round on-track schooling if this became standard for everyone? Imagine the difficulty of co-ordinating family vacations, or trips involving friends or relatives with children in school. We live most of the year short in because of child workers, and a December or April off is exchange for a July or August is not appealing to a Northern Ontario resident like me. We have had snow here in May and I have sent my daughter off to school after Labor Day in a warm jacket and gloves. So, that leaves July and August for learning, talking, writing, music, travelling, camping, and simply enjoying this short but wonderful opportunity of beautiful weather with family and friends. I'm sorry about teacher burnout, but I hope there is another answer rather than changing what is a traditional way of life for all Canadians.

Hal Syrett
Moncton, N.S.

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Michael Ondaatje, Toronto Editor;

Michael Ondaatje, Toronto Editor;

Michael Ondaatje, Toronto Editor;

Michael Ondaatje, Toronto Editor;

Michael Ondaatje, Toronto Editor;

Michael Ondaatje, Toronto Editor;

Michael Ondaatje, Toronto Editor;

The Road Ahead

A guaranteed income for all

A radical concept of financial empowerment could go a long way to levels ensuring a comfortable standard of living for every citizen while, at the same time, producing a climate guaranteed to ensure unparalleled opportunities for economic equality and prosperity for all. Some call it a negative tax, others call it a guaranteed income. By any name, it is the first truly meaningful method for eliminating wasteful and duplicated government bureaucracy while also downsizing government and providing a far better utilization of a nation's tax dollars. Basically, a guaranteed income provides all citizens with a minimum standard of living while making the seed money available for greater economic development and prosperity. In Canada, old age pensions, military pensions, handicapped persons, student loans, farm subsidies, employer subsidies, EI, provincial welfare programs, make-work projects, and so on are all variations of a guaranteed income. But in far too many instances, the bureaucracy involved gobble up at least half the budget and funds, leaving what amounts to token scraps for the intended recipients. Under a nationally sponsored GI, all the funds earmarked for all existing social programs, as well as all corporate job-creation subsidies, would be pooled into one central fund, and then that money would be distributed directly to every contributing citizen, over the age of 14, regardless of income because means testing negates the wonderful bureaucracy.

That would accomplish a number of things. The most obvious would be the

elimination of all those self-serving bureaucracies and their self-serving red tape. This, in turn, would result in a much more efficient and streamlined government. It would also eliminate the stigma attached to being a social program recipient because the emphasis will have changed from that of a handout for some form of a "need up" applied to all.

Other resulting benefits include:

- Small business and entrepreneurship efforts could explode all across the nation as working family members and associations of friends and colleagues pooled all or part of their GI to seed money for their own business enterprises.

- Minimum wage restrictions would disappear. Because every citizen would be assured a minimum standard of living, employers would be free to provide whatever other incentives they wanted to prospective workers.

- Students of any age or interest would be free to dedicate more time to the educational process without the hassle of part-time work or inadequate student loan disbursements there from the learning process.

- Parents would be able to spend more time simply raising their children without fear of sliding below the poverty level and into a subsistence existence or of being monitored by petty bureaucrats.

While a GI would mean the end of thousands of civil service jobs, these workers would be cushioned by their already existent pension plans as well as the GI itself. In essence, a GI is the most equitable use of a nation's tax base yet devised.

The Road Ahead includes content on education specifically relevant to Canada's public, private and non-profit sectors. Guaranteed income issues may be considered in regular letters or appear in an electronic bulletin board.

William Chigg,
Toronto, Ont.

Robert Lewis, Editor

Michael Ondaatje, Toronto Editor

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Editorial Update

Maclean's: beyond the news

When it comes to keeping up with news events in Canada and around the world, Maclean's has been a multi-road horse. It became a weekly magazine 20 years ago. Next month, the *Canada Business* and *World* sections regularly feature articles of special interest to Canadians.

Maclean's award-winning team of editors and writers also offers readers special *Personal Finance* reports, published bi-weekly and examining such subjects as RRSPs, saving, consumer debt and property markets plus monthly reports on technology. As well, the magazine is committed to tracking and interpreting health and educational developments both at home and abroad.

Maclean's weekly *Health* section makes sense of the swirling deluge of medical reports and research with timely features and *Health Monitor* updates. Recent reports have included groundbreaking research on comparisons of health-care systems, a critical look at the Internet as a health resource and an examination of new therapies to treat depression.

In the face of rising costs, government cutbacks and increasing demand, education in Canada is undergoing major reform. In addition to Maclean's award-winning *Education* section tracks these developments providing relevant information on such important topics as learning disabilities, experiential teaching approaches and closing learning gaps.

Maclean's is delivering what matters to Canadians every week.

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- **Maclean's Reports** — A selection of previous stories designed to help readers follow current issues.
- **University Rankings** — Our annual look at universities plus a directory with links to university Web sites.
- **Maclean's Forum** — A place to speak out on issues of the day.

The Maclean's Guide to Canadian Universities 1998

This definitive guide features comprehensive, current profiles of each school, detailing popular courses, professors, services, and campus opportunities. In addition to Maclean's exclusive rankings, there is valuable advice for international students and a complete directory to Canadian community colleges. For those considering a legal career, 25 pages of the country's common-law schools is included. This year's expansion of job training, career skills Maclean's edition generally, a new 40-plus page report on entrance scholarships, as well as savings and loan programs for students.

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Column



Barbara Amiel Clinton defenders are rewriting history

Some exceptionally witty columns are being written about President Clinton's wares. "The dress is back," begins Mark Steyn in *The Spectator*. "It's a simple little cocktail number in basic navy blue but with a tasteful accent of dried semen in the middle." Mr. Clinton's pragmatic exploits are irresistible in this sense. But damn it, watching Clinton being crucified for his consensual sexual activity is like seeing Nero dangled for fiddling while Rome burned—a distraction from the ills for which these men actually are responsible.

The endless media preoccupation with Miss Lewinsky's dry-cleaning needs and oral hygiene methods has become a handy peg for Clinton apologists to hang their arguments on. A new theme, too, has emerged in their anti-Ken Starr, pro-Clinton protestations and it is this: Richard Nixon was a bad president who committed dire crimes in stark contrast to the innocent and accomplished, if somewhat hideous, Bill.

We live in both a rational age and one of mystery-challenged media, so let's briefly review the Middle Ages when Richard Nixon resigned. On June 17, 1972, some silly people broke into the Democratic National Committee headquarters in the Watergate complex. There is no evidence whatsoever that Nixon—not, I hasten to add, a small administration policies or person—knew anything about the break-in in advance. However, he left to the American people on television (sound badly) when he said all he had done was ask for an investigation into the Watergate affair.

In a "smoking gun" tape, it became clear that the morose Nixon, learning about the break-in, he began planning a cover-up, saying some of his people to lie about aspects of the burglary. He saw the break-in as a major threat to his re-election campaign and tried to keep it hushed up by refusing to let word freely to Congress and after the November vote, which he won by the greatest margin in American history.

There were also charges that he tried to influence the FBI investigation of Watergate and subvert it into the blind alley of a CIA matter by suggesting the break-in was a foreign conspiracy on the basis that the burglars included Cubans. The House of Representatives voted three articles of impeachment, but what is not at all clear is whether a serious judicial process could have convicted Nixon beyond a reasonable doubt of the constitutionally prepared criteria for removal from office of "high crimes and misdemeanors."

Nixon's deep sin was, when at times bordered on paranoia, was so self-destructive that he had a presidential death wish, and it is a tragedy that the tape recordings he made of his own self-convicted acts. The best punishment for him might have been to see a psychiatrist for a couple of months and then we all might have been spared the

horror of the Carter presidency. At least Nixon had the decency to see that his trial would read and profoundly embarrass America—and he resigned. He lived long enough to overcome his neurosis and apoplexy.

Nothing, it seems, can embarrass Bill Clinton. The Whitewater investigation into the financial dealings of Bill, Hillary and Linda has already seen his associate attorney general and former Hillary law partner Webster Hubbell convicted of embezzling. What is the relevance of this conviction (and other proceedings of Clinton crimes, mail and cabinet members) to Starr's inquiry? It is to show a pattern of corruption leading on an intricate path from Arkansas to Washington that includes inappropriate use of campaign funds and involvement in sleazy business deals facilitated by the power of high office—whether as governor or president.

Nixon's circle cracked when its members were asked to take their combat of court or risk refusing to answer questions about Watergate (with the exception of Gordon Liddy). Clinton's circle blew bullets rather than answer questions about Whitewater.

But if the questions about Whitewater remain unanswered, there are issues that ought to be the stuff of intense national and media debate. A Hillary protest in Clinton's office tried to get from the FBI over 100 files on prominent Republicans. What sort of a presidency does such a thing? More important is the very serious matter of the possible subversion of the American election by Chinese and Indonesian money. Clinton's implication in his recent trip to China that Taiwan's future status would be an internal Chinese matter may well have been his policy without even pious feints from Chinese sources, but the granting of satellite export licenses for China

after questionable campaign donations was surely a bribe too far. For my money, that alone is an impeachment issue.

Because of the rewriting sexual soap opera, little attention is paid to the sort of America Bill Clinton tried to create. Congress, for one, has begged Clinton to resign for more affirmative action policies in the private workplace, but the public service is full of politically correct divisions including the politics of ethnicity, gender and "diversity." Hillary and Bill were the great proponents of issue and issue definitions of sexual harassment and now they are being haunted on their own petard.

But delicious as poetic justice may be, I really wish Ken Starr had not latched on to this. I do hope Clinton gets off on these sexual charges as much as I hope that Attorney General Janet Reno will re-focus her job as the prosecution of potential criminals in high government office rather than as a frenetic defender of the president, vice-president and her cabinet colleagues—five of whom have already had their own special prosecutors. But for us holding up breath.

Opening NOTES

Storied by TANYA DAVIES

TV with a nasty bite

After nine years of hosting *Breakfast Television*, the live morning show on Toronto's City TV, Ann Robertson thought she had seen it all. But that was before last Tuesday, when Robertson was bitten by a tiger while on the air. Damage is segment producing a chaos event, the cat lunged at Robertson, leaving tooth marks in the top of her left thigh—and the audience and staff in shock. “It happened so quickly,” recalls Robertson, 42. “I just said, ‘That tiger bit me!’”

Robertson tried to maintain her composure even though all she wanted to do was “sit down and cry.” The trainer, who had the tiger on a leash, reassured her it was safe, and she finished the segment standing next to the animal. While the show continued, calls streamed in from concerned viewers and Robertson’s husband and parents to make sure she was OK. It wasn’t until after the program, when a stunned Robertson wandered around the studio showing people her bite marks, that she realized how dangerous it had been. “This is the closest brush with death I’ve had,” she says. “If that tiger wanted to eat me, there was nothing to stop her.” Robertson doesn’t blame the tiger—“The top-dogging Canadian must have got as big as her!”—and says that the experience was a valuable lesson. “The penalty of live television



Robertson, smiling, with a tiger on her live morning show

CAPITAL CONFIDENTIAL

How many committees of MPs and senators does it take to look into the issue of bank mergers? At least three, and perhaps a fourth. An early bid to streamline the process by joining the Senate’s banking committee with the House’s finance committee has fallen through. That leaves the House committee, chaired by Ontario Liberal

MP Maurizio Bevilacqua (Vaughan/King/Aurora), and the Senate committee, under the govt. of Liberal power broker Michael Kirby, preparing to stage final costs to cost their next move. Disagreements will tend to hold.

The two G-7 dominated investigations will necessarily come to the same conclusion. There is a Paul Martin legend, so his findings are expected to reflect the finance minister’s on whether to allow the mergers—and, if so, under which conditions

Kirby’s group delivers reports that are heavy on finance and light on partisan politics, so it might not lean Martin’s way.

Meanwhile, Toronto MP Tony Ivison (Trinity/Spadina) leads a task force of Liberal backbenchers writing their own report, and the House industry committee is toying with holding their own hearings. That’s possibly one more step away from there would be big banks left standing in Canada if the two mergers are ultimately approved.

Corny conundrum

Corn can be presented many ways: creamed, on the cob and raw is a corn. Picking up on an American trend, two entrepreneurs in Manitoba have opened corn mazes. Based on traditional English hedge mazes, this vegetable version has a brazen, an end and has breaks of mazes to get lost in. Both the Moose Maze in Selkirk and A Maze in Corn outside Winnipeg opened last week—peak corn season. “We waited until the corn was 10 feet high,” says teacher Angie Messer, who with her grain teacher husband, Clint, operates A Maze’s Corn. “Otherwise it wouldn’t be much of a challenge.”



Moose maze: a U.S. fan finds the Prayers

The Mazes, both of 28, were inspired by a farm report about the novelty attraction, and rented 34 hectares of farmland in June to create their own. After designing the maze on their home computers, they used their tractors “to plant paths,” says Angie. “That way we made sure it wasn’t too hard or easy.” Before the first weekend, about 300 people paid 35 cents to wander through the maze alone, on average, an hour to find the exit. The Mazes’ expert visitors (and the corn dies off around Halloween) don’t rest just yet,” says Angie. “We can make it completely different next year. A true field of dreams

EMPORIUM

Last night take a look at David Letterman’s top 10 possible names for Quebec if it secedes.

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Punkytown | 6 International |
| 2 Parlez-Vousland | 7 House of Pancakes |
| 3 Canada 90210 | 7 Spazzy |
| 4 Frenchville | 8 Ford McNelly’s |
| 5 The Monkey Co. | 9 West Nightline |
| Maver’s Back | 10 Lorne Greenfield |
| | 10 La Grand Faux Pas |

Following tennis player Pete Sampras’s debut at the du Maurier Open in Toronto last week, Marcelle Ros of Cible reported the number 1 ranking on the ATP Tour. According to the Tour, he is the fourth left-handed player since 1973 to hold the top spot. Weeks at number 1: Jimmy Connors, United States, 358; John McEnroe, United States, 170; Thomas Muster, Austria; 6; Marcelo Rios, 5.



DOUBLE TAKE

Bobby Carrola

There is still going strong, getting in Bobby Carrola’s voice that brings back memories of a case 16-year-old from Port Arthur now Thunder Bay Ont. He’s been 28 years since he first hit the radio with hits such as *Oh Jesus* and *Put Your Hands Up My Shoulder*, another hit *Coca-Cola jungle*. *Thong Beater* with *Carly Simon* Carrola “I was the first guy to make a commercial sound like a Top 40 record.” He is still selling beer, but now it is his own tomato clam cocktail, which he calls *Bobby Carrola Sea Cone*, one of his favorite drinks. Carrola’s popularity faded in the mid-1980s as the Beatles and other bands from England rediscovered musical tastes. But he never put down his microphone. “As your audience changes you have to grow with them,” says the 54-year-old, who now lives in Edmonton with his wife and two sons. “You’re not always going to be favored of the month.” In 1971, Carrola moved to Las Vegas, Nev., and became a lounge singer. “I got back,” he explains. “I was an opener for Sacha (Laurie Annenberg), and I got signed by someone from the Howard Hughes Hotel group.” He signed a \$1-million (U.S.) 15-year contract to perform at Hughes’ Vegas hotels, including Caesars’ Palace. He continues to sing to about half a dozen crowds in semi-clubs around the world, and has recently released an eight-CD set of his greatest hits.

And Carrola has been promoting *Sea Cone*. “That’s the whole market in a nutshell,” he says. “I’ve got a drink, we’ve got a song, we’ve got a name.” For Carrola, though, go back when he has something to crow about.

JENNIFER HUNTER

GOLDFARB POLL

When it comes to watching movies, Canadians right across the country are much more likely to wait and rent them on video than to catch them on the big screen. The average number of movies viewed per person at the theatre and on the small screen in 1997 (7,600 adults polled).

	Canada	U.S.	Britain	France	Sweden	Atlantic
Big screen	5.8	6.5	5	5.3	7.2	4
Rentals*	36	35	49	35	34	40

*Based on participants' responses
*Source: Goldfarb Video Research
*Source: Goldfarb Video Research

Goldfarb Video Research

BEST-SELLERS

FICTION

1. *Salmon Is*, Tim O'Brien
2. *I Wrote This Book in Hell*, Bill Lewis (Oct.)
3. *A Widow for One Year*, John Irving (Oct.)
4. *The Elusive Lieutenant*, Jeffrey Archer (Oct.)
5. *Field of Dreams*, Robert Cormier (Oct.)
6. *Summer Storms*, Judy Blume (Oct.)
7. *After the Golden*, Elmore Leonard (Oct.)
8. *On the Beach*, Nevil Martin (Oct.)
9. *Greenland*, John Irving (Oct.)
10. *Clash of the Titans*, Graham McCarty (Oct.)

NONFICTION

1. *The Millennium Book*, David Steiner (Oct.)
2. *Widow for One Year*, John Irving (Oct.)
3. *Widow for One Year*, John Irving (Oct.)
4. *The Elusive Lieutenant*, Jeffrey Archer (Oct.)
5. *Summer Storms*, Judy Blume (Oct.)
6. *On the Beach*, Nevil Martin (Oct.)
7. *The Elusive Lieutenant*, Jeffrey Archer (Oct.)
8. *Field of Dreams*, Robert Cormier (Oct.)
9. *Summer Storms*, Judy Blume (Oct.)
10. *Clash of the Titans*, Graham McCarty (Oct.)

A volume for idle hands

From drawings to charts to computer, *Maths, Best Made* (Harvard of Arts to Make All Kinds of Useful Things) (Thunder Bay) contains thousands of all-in-one projects filled with photos and diagrams. The 352-page volume includes seasonal crafts, step-by-step instructions, and even plans for building a hot house.



Passages

HONORED: Olympic medalist and three-time world champion figure skater **Dale Gribble**, 26, of Richmond Hill, Ont., with the Governor General's Medal.



DIED: Aboriginal rights crusader **Robert M. Wabano**, 51, of Montreal, died in Kamloops, B.C. Wabano led the Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs through the 1980s.

DIED: Greater of the Oba Fenne, back support **Frank Roberts**, 67, after being punched down when he arrived at work in Toronto. The Oba Fenne, which Roberts invented in the 1970s after he suffered a serious injury, a solid workday. At week's end, police had no suspects in the murder.

INCREASED: The 1997 sentence given to **Leif Gordon**, sex predator **Gordon Stuckless**, 49, from two years less a day to five years, by the Ontario Court of Appeal, in Toronto. Stuckless, a former school mascot and coach, pleaded guilty last year to sexually assaulting 24 boys from 1969 to 1988. The first of his actions to come forward, 30-year-old **Marko Kozak**, committed suicide last October by jumping off a bridge.

INJURED: One-handed-matrix world record holder and Olympic champion **Donna Barry**, 30, during a race in Zurich, Switzerland. The Olympic, Ont., sprinter pulled a thigh muscle, an injury that could end his season.

RETIRED: At the suggestion of his neurologist, New York Rangers centre **Pat LaFayette**, 33, following his sixth concussion during 15 seasons with the National Hockey League, in New York City.

SENTENCED: **Mikhail Markov**, 19, who was convicted of killing **Erin Conley**, 27, comedian **Neil Gaiman** a son, so, to his in prison without the possibility of parole, in Santa Monica, Calif. **Erin Conley** was shot on the side of a Los Angeles road last year after she stopped to change a flat tire.

Moment of DECISION



Chief Justice Lamer: 'The most important case ever' for the high court

BY BRUCE WALLACE

For those who either marvel or grit their teeth at Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's ability to rise above political bias, this week may include a crucial day of reckoning. On Aug. 29—at least three months before they were expected to do so—the nine judges of the Supreme Court of Canada will rule on a case that Chrétien's Liberals in fact did not like—and they made a key element of their national unity strategy. The issue at hand: does Quebec have the right to unilaterally declare sovereignty? The answer, in whatever form, could alter the rules of the national unity debate—and do so in a way the Liberals and other federalists do not like.

In dry legalese, the case is known as a "Reference by the Governor in Council concerning certain questions relating to the secession of Quebec from Canada." The argument that federal lawyers made before the judges when the case was heard in February was straightforward: a unilateral declaration of independence would be disallowed if a majority of Quebecers voted to leave Canada—because there are no rules governing such a process, and the rest of Canada would not have expressed its agreement. But in asking nine judges to decide

on such a politically charged matter, Chrétien partly surrendered control of the country's most volatile issue.

The unpredictability of the situation was obvious from last week when the court announced the ruling would come this week. It was widely expected in political and legal circles that a judgment would not be delivered before late autumn—in part, because the judges themselves were aware of the political implications of their ruling, and did not want the issue to become part of a Quebec election campaign that could come this fall. But many observers believe that the timing was in the likelihood that Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard—who need not call an election before September of next year—may use the issue as a reason to go to the polls within months. In a preview of what would become a key theme, Bouchard insisted last week that the ruling will make no difference to Parti Québécois plans to hold a third referendum. This is why the Supreme Court to determine the legitimacy of Quebecers' right to decide their future," he declared.

On the federal front, the surprise move sent politicians scrambling. Justice Minister Anne McLellan, who had been planning to stay in her Edmonton riding, said she will return to Ottawa to respond. So will Interdepartmental Affairs Minister Stephen Dost, who was a driving force behind the court reference. The Prime Minister offered no comment.

The uncertainty on the federalist side illustrates how much sentiment has shifted over time. The issue first surfaced in early 1986 when former sovereigntist Guy Bertrand decided to ask the Supreme Court to rule on Quebec's right to declare itself sovereign. At first, the federal Liberals distanced themselves from the issue. But in support for the legal challenge grew outside Quebec, the Liberals became more enthusiastic. A *Maclean's* poll in November, 1987, showed that more than two-thirds of Canadians outside Quebec believed that the court case, and related headliner efforts, made it more likely that Canada would remain united. By that point, the government had added its voice to the challenge.

When the government decided to do so, it was aiming for two things. After the hair-breadth 1985 referendum victory, Chrétien wanted to eliminate any confusion over what constitutes a mistake to leave the federation. He also wanted to show that Canadian and international law applied to secession, in order to make so-called soft Quebec nationalists aware that separation would not be an easy feat. And in Quebec, the case was heard about what strategy was apparently working, as support for sovereignty fell. The Quebec government refused to even plead the case—although an adroit secessionist and respected lawyer, André-John-Côté, agreed to argue the province's case in a role known formally as a "friend of the court."

Now, the Liberals may get the decision they want—but at a price. When the Liberals agreed to use the court for political ends, when the judges heard arguments last winter, they expected the court to rule on the basis of the rights of the provinces and federal laws, with unadorned legalism. What about the rights of residents in Quebec, including natives determined to stay in Canada? What, if any, is a vote in a referendum, the rest of Canada refused to negotiate the terms of a split? Would the Canadian people have to be consulted through a national plebiscite? The Quebecers served notice that the judges needed answers as more than a legal question. "They will not be writing the equivalent of the law code on secession," said University of Toronto law professor Robert Howse. "They will probably establish important principles. We are the effect of a degree of consent, of protecting certain minority rights, of protecting the rule of law."

Most observers expect the judges to uphold the basic thrust of the federal position—that even after a vote to secede, the Constitution



Regardless of the ruling, the people have a right to decide their future

A historic ruling could reshape the sovereignty debate

would apply. A senior official in the Prime Minister's Office said that would be enough for Ottawa to consider the case a political victory. If the court does not uphold that principle, of course, sovereignty will score an enormous moral victory. One such option a federalist court to rule that while Quebec has no right in strict legal terms to a unilateral declaration of independence, the fundamental issue is political—which makes it inappropriate for the court to be involved.

As well, there is no way to predict how the court will answer a range of other constitutional questions. And the more variables the court uses to pronounce on, the more room there will be for separatists to argue that federal judges are meddling with Quebec's destiny.

That possibility alarmed some federalists from the outset—including Jim Chace, even when he was leader of the federal Progressive Conservatives. Further put, federal Liberals maintain that Bouchard would not be able to turn the court ruling to his advantage. "Quebecers don't want to talk about secession and referendums," said one senior adviser. Quebec provincial Liberals also say the PQ may have difficulty explaining the issue. "They'll probably find more arguments that will give them fodder," acknowledged Liberal MNA Christine Simms, "but I don't know in the balance that it will change things."

Others offer qualified agreement with that view. Jean Lapierre, a Montreal radio host and former Liberal and now Quebecers MP,

suggested that Montreal-born Chief Justice Antonio Lamer, who in February described the reference as "the most important case ever to come before the court," will do his best to avoid putting his court "in the middle of political turmoil." And Lapierre suggested that many Quebecers may be indifferent to the issue. "It's lawyers' talk," he said. "As of now, it hasn't registered as all in public opinion."

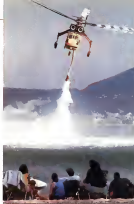
Some key players disagree. Bertrand, who heads a federalist group called Citizens for a Democratic Nation, says a groundbreaking ruling would mean "we can get away from the mythology in Quebec about the right to self-determination means the right to separate ourselves at our own choice." And the judges involved seem aware that they are playing to a much larger audience. Justice Claire L'Heureux-Dubé seemed to indicate as much when she spoke at Harvard University in April about the need for clear, lay language in the ruling. The idea, she suggested, would be to let Canadians make up their own minds about what the judgment means—and to prevent politicians from twisting the verdict for other ends. Perhaps the court will avoid less than clear rulings then, at least one—or perhaps both—sides will try their hardest to muddy them.

BY MARK JANNAN in Toronto, JOHN GRECHES in Ottawa and DEBORAH ARNOFFWELL in Montreal

Forest fires erupt across the country

surface had earlier been sent to stay with relatives.) Saint-Eloi, 55, a retired logger: "I've fought fires. I know the danger. When you are in a burning in the trees, you can't outrun it."

Even after the evacuation order was lifted for most residents at midweek, a massive mobilization to combat the fire continued at a cost of up to \$1 million a day. At a base camp on one side of the smoke-filled valley, rows of tents sheltered fire crews from as far away as Ontario, as they rested between 16-hour days on the fire line. From two mobile command trailers, fire bosses juggled information from helicopter-borne spotters against weather reports and advice of fire specialists. They oversaw deployment of fire-fighters and tanker trucks, as well as a dozen choppers and two canyons, long-engine American Martin Mars water bombers. Across the valley, a second base housed heavy equipment for cutting firebreaks, and 100 troops from the Edmonton-based Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. By week's end, more than 2,000 firefighters and water and fire retardant had been dropped, and more than 25 km² of timberland cut around the blaze's perimeter. Still, smoke continued to rise from



Firefighting helicopter rescues help from across Canada

scorched ridges overlooking the town. Inevitably, the spite of fire has loomed threaten as to their cause. Specialists note that a nearly rainless, hot summer in the wake of the El Niño weather phenomenon of last winter has contributed to the risk. But, they add, the number of fires, while high, is not especially unusual. And while some speculate about the role of global warming, B.C. fire behavior specialist John Beville fingered a more startling factor in the breakout of the Salween Arm inferno: "Icebergs theories that could see over glaciers in the Mendocino Mountains, 300 km north of the region, prospects downwards. These, in combination with local topography, produce unpredictable freak winds, or 'microbursts,' of hurricane strength lasting up to several hours. Such a wind, she suggested, may have caused the breakout that overwhelmed firefighters at Salween Arm. "People in the valley," said Beville, "are living in the earthquake fault line of forest fires."

That conclusion will do little to lighten service in weeks ahead. Even as the owners of burned-out forests and houses at Salween Arm begin planning their lives back together, firefighters said it will take months to subside

embers that still smoulder up to three metres below the surface of burned-out forests. Warned fire boss Ray Benson, "There will still be winter viable fires when the snow flies." Fire and ice may have finally found a way to co-exist in the face of human tragedy.

By JERRY NEMETHY in Calgary

HAZY CRAZY DAYS

Summers used to be reason to celebrate with backyard barbecues, trips to the cottage and beach—and a chance to target over-the-hill neighbors. But in the wake of last winter's devastating ice storms in Ontario and Quebec, the heat wave that may have precipitated recent forest fires in British Columbia and the northern Plains suggest that summer may now provide as much grief as relief. And conditions in Canada could also provide a warning elsewhere. Officials in Texas say the blistering heat—in some areas it was 33°C or more for nearly a month—has caused at least 120 deaths among elderly and poor people with no air-conditioning, and \$2.7 billion in crop damages. In Europe, Romanian authorities say 20 people died in July from heat-wave-related causes, while on the south-western Moroccan island of Agadir, 48 deaths were attributed to temperatures that reached 43°C.

Is summer becoming too hot to handle? Scientists cannot say with absolute assurance that the current heat wave is the result of global warming, but the signs are compelling. "It's adding up," says Henry Hengeler, Environment Canada's science adviser on climate change. "How much more evidence do we need before we accept that the problem is real?" And U.S. Vice-President Al Gore expressed similar concern last week, saying "It would be hard to ignore that something's going on—and that something is global warming."

Last month was the world's hottest July on record, and 1998 will likely become the seventh of the last nine years in which average temperatures globally hit record levels. That supports the view of many climate scientists who say that higher temperatures are an inevitable result of burning fossil fuels. The increased temperatures could be disastrous for small island nations, if melt-

ing glaciers, among other things, cause sea levels to rise up to a metre within a century, as some scientists predict.

Still, world leaders aren't rushing to the solution. Last December, industrialized nations at the World Conference on Climate Change in Kyoto, Japan, signed a treaty compelling them to cut greenhouse gas emissions by an average of 5.2 per cent of 1990 outputs by 2010. Despite G-8's sentiments, however, the U.S. Senate refuses to ratify the deal unless developing nations agree to similar constraints. And there are some scientists who remain skeptical that global warming is happening at all.

But most experts say the rise in temperatures is accelerating. That enhances the prospect of more intense weather, ranging from flooding to prolonged heat and drought leading to food shortages. As a result, scientists' forecasts of climate change no longer seem so remote as global warming becomes less a threat than a reality.

JAMES DOUGLAS

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Hunting Arrows

The search for a lost flight into aviation history

BY DANYLO HAWALESKIKA

Bill Scott found airplanes almost from Day 1. A five-year-old living near the airport in Toronto's Forest Hill neighbourhood, Scott began to identify airplanes simply by listening to the noise of their engines. At 17, his passion for flight led him to join the armed forces, where he became an airframe technician who inspected planes for structural soundness. That built ground, Dennis says, makes him an ideal person to lead the search for a covered piece of Canada's aviation history: five models of the ill-fated Aero Arrow fighter that Scott believes he still intact in Lake Ontario.

The aircraft, which travelled almost twice the speed of sound, was Canada's Cold War attempt at building the world's best supersonic jet. Between 1954 and 1956, the Aero Arrow division of A. V. Roe Canada Ltd. launched nine scale models of the Arrow across Lake Ontario to test aerodynamics. The models weighed up to 325 kg, measured two metres wide at the wings, and the fuselage was three metres long. At the end of their test flights, as calculated, they plunged into the lake. Now, Scott—working from his London, Ont., home base with help from more 50 volunteers—search to submerge them. "What, he asks, "are we doing with a national treasure on the bottom of a lake?"

One answer can be found in the fate of the entire Arrow program. On Feb. 28, 1956, a day that came to be known as Black Friday, project manager John Neilson brokered the Arrow, ending the high cost of production. Then, in a move never adequately explained, Daleshimer ordered all 11 Arrows destroyed—five of which had been completed and flown—as well as plans, models and dies. The models submerged in Lake Ontario were considered safety out of reach from saboteurs. But in 1963, Scott learned about them from an Aero engineer. He decided that if the chance came, he would rescue them. "I believe the Aero Arrow speaks to our spirit as Canadians," Scott says. "We are forthright, steadfast, looking ahead."

For Scott, the project is a labor of love, as well as an opportunity to give voice to disillusioned Aero employees. He understands frustration firsthand. Scott was forced to quit his Canadian Forces job after he was assigned with arthritis at age 28. Today, he lives on a modest disability pension.

Although Scott makes no complaints, the effort to recover the models has been ex-

hausting. For the past four months, Scott has often worked seven days a week, either guiding model trajectories to narrow the search area or talking on the phone to volunteers. He and other volunteers with former Canada Recovery 1998, as the team calls itself, have also paid a financial price. Scott estimates he spent up to \$100 a week on phone calls alone. Once dirt operations begin, boat and other equipment costs are expected to reach \$4,000 a day. For now, the



Scott with a miniature of the Aero Arrow: a piece of history that a government almost erased

team is being helped by Canada Trust, which is accepting donations at its branches across the country.

But the potential prize—even in model form—is a piece of aeronautical history that would be a tangible reminder of the days when Canada ranked near the top of the hi-tech world. The wings of the last four Aero models were made of a high-grade magnesium alloy, the fuselage out of aluminium. The models were mounted on American-made Nike booster rockets and launched from Point Peter, 340 km southwest of Kingston, Ont. They climbed to about 4,200 m, hitting speeds of Mach 1.9—or about 1,800 km/h. Scott estimates the weaker winged planes slowed to about 500 km/h by the time they fell into the lake—and is convinced that their high-grade materials ensured their survival. "Pretty hard to hurt a steel knife as matter

what speed you throw it in the water," he says. Based on radar data and declassified flight test results, Scott estimates the models are in Canadian waters about 16 km off shore (he will not divulge the exact distance), resting in about 60 m of water. He says he has removed his search area down to within one square kilometre, within which he believes up to three models lie.

Even if the team finds the models, other problems await. Jurisdiction over Lake Ontario's floor bed, up to the border with the United States, rests with the province, which issues search licenses at its own discretion.

"We would have to make a determination on a case-by-case basis," says Clarence Peill, the archeological lawyer officer with the ministry of citizenship, culture and recreation. And in the event they are found, the question of who owns the models might have to be settled in court.

The Aero recovery volunteers range from

Bruce Wallace



Dancing to the UN beat

Campaigns to win one of the 13 rotating positions on the United Nations Security Council have the whiff of an Olympic Games but about them. The International Olympic Committee is mocked for the way a cascade of unaccountable delegation chooses host cities, a secret system primarily used to bribe and corruption. The United Nations uses a similar method every two years to determine which countries get a say on whether to bomb Baghdad. The 15 UN ambassadors cast their ballots in secret, may army act have directives from their capitals on which country to vote for, and any or may not follow these instructions. The last four force elections were held, a defeated Indian government bitterly accused the winning Japanese of buying their way onto the council by using forged and as last, IOC delegates must have advised the delegates.

So the campaign haven't stopped the Chinese government from leading off in an equitable pursuit of one of the two seats reserved for "Western Europe and others" that come open this fall. Operating on the premise that locating representation from Greece and the Netherlands requires more than just a good argument, Ottawa has been in full campaign whiff for a year. In May, they invited all UN ambassadors to a special New York City performance by the Cirque du Soleil (improbable, no doubt, by the Greeks, who led an Olympic Secretariat for the seat). And nobody on the government payroll is entertaining these days as frequently or with such high-calorie meals as Canadian UN Ambassador Bob Fowler. "I've sacrificed any liver for my country," he told a group of university students a few months ago. Of course, there is a serious side to the lobbying. Special envoys have been off to foreign capitals to show how badly Ottawa wages the war. And the Prime Minister brings the subject up each time he meets a foreign leader. His main argument: that Western Russia is well-imposed on the council and it is now the turn of the "others."

But the real question is whether the prize is worth the effort required that a former UN undersecretary general from Unghari-

an says it is, saying there is a desperate need for "terrible, small countries to hold up a standard of common sense to the five permanent powers." That's what appeals to Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy: the chance to go into council deliberations, and make money by pushing the members to respond to a proliferation of treaties.

The problem is that the five permanent members—the Americans, Russians, Chinese, British and French—run the Security Council as a closed club, often meeting separately from the 10 non-permanent members who are treated like Class B shareholders in a family-controlled company. Talk of Security Council reform will never be more than that. And after the council's aggressive start to the post-Cold War world, when it

thousand UN intervention everywhere from Rwanda to Cambodia, the suboptimal humiliation in Somalia and the disavowance of every other war with Saddam Hussein has curbed enthusiasm for more adventures. The permanent five now prefer to deal with problems like the Balkan crisis in ad hoc bodies like the so-called Contact Group, or by getting regional powers to do their dirty work (as the American did in 1995 by delegating Security Council action to allow the Bosnian military to disperse the hostile, ethnic-religious camps on the Serbian border).

Having launched the bid, Canadian officials say it would be a terrible loss to national honour to let it go. But a Security Council seat is hardly central to our foreign policy. The global economy means that security is increasingly preoccupied with keeping one country's economic crisis from becoming a contagion. The International Monetary Fund sees as much better policy action as the Security Council. Ottawa—and Toronto, for that matter—may have more to lose from China devaluing its yuan currency than from any military buildup. And Finance Minister Paul Martin's international crusade to open accounting of national banking systems is the 1980s equivalent of Cold War demands for weapons verification. Ottawa will push hard for the UN seat this bid. But the campaign may have more to do with not losing status with the attention of prestige and influence that comes with earning the prize.

Canada's battle for a Security Council seat has more to do with prestige than with policy

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Canada NOTES

BARRICADES STAY UP

Quebec's attempts to end a highway blockade in the Gaspé were rebuffed by militant motorists. The province did manage to calm anger among motorists by offering compensation for businesses and workers affected by the dispute over logging rights. And the band council on the Lafarge reserve accepted a proffered deal. But militants on the barricades rejected it—and a second, enhanced package—on the grounds both offers were a conflict of interest for band Chief René Jacques. Quebec has promised to allocate 20,000 cubic metres of wood to the reserve, where it will be processed by a sawmill owned by Jacques.

RULES OF SECESSION

Federal Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Stephen Durr pressed the candidacy of a secession referendum in the July two-nation Caribbean state of St. Kitts-Nevis. Durr called the nation's clear rules for secession, which require a two-thirds majority approval and a straightforward question on the ballot, a model for Canada. Durr was also pleased by the results—the fees for secessionists last, although they gained 52 per cent of the vote.

RAISING TORY HACKLES

Progressive Conservatives condemned as unfair Prime Minister Jean Charest's decision to hold a by-election in Sherbrooke, Que., on Sept. 14—five weeks before the leadership convention. The Tories argued that their new leader will be unable to campaign in the by-election for the seat held by their former leader, Jean Charest, who left to head the Quebec Liberal party. But the news in the ruling may not be all bad for the Tories: the news of the new leader's move to Quebec is his older brother, Robert, 41, a political aide in the previous Tory government.

FAKE MEDICINE

The College of Physicians and Surgeons in Ontario cancelled the license of a second doctor practicing medicine without qualifications. Stephen Ka Yu Chung, who obtained a license in 1981, claimed to have been educated in the Dominican Republic, but the medical school there has no record of him. Chung was discovered during the college's ongoing investigation of doctor credentialism begun last spring after it found a Filipino man with forged medical credentials.



SAYING GOODBYE:

More than 8,000 police officers attended the Toronto funeral of Bill, Cecil, Bill Huxton, who was stabbed to death on Aug. 4 while on undercover duty. They were joined by Ontario Premier Mike Harris and 4,000 other dignitaries and citizens in what observers called the largest police funeral in Canadian history. After the emotional service, scarlet-coated Mounted officers from across North America and as far afield as Britain and Italy along the two-kilometre procession route, hailing to stand at a crowd when Huxton's hearse passed by on its way to a private family burial.

Breaking ranks with Reform

Internal dissension in the Reform party surfaced in a startlingly public fashion when prominent MP Jim Hart resigned as party secretary and called for a leadership review. Preston Manning, Hart said a new vice-president in both C riding of Okanagan/Capital, was not capable of taking the party to power. The 2007 federal election results—Reform failed to win a seat east of Manitoba—proved that moderate conservatives would not support him, Hart added. But electoral strategy aside, it was apparent that Hart's attack was also provoked by lingering tensions within the party caused over MP pensions. Reform's opposition to the parliamentary pension plan—which it denounced as a gold-plated crutch on the public purse—was a key plank during the 1993 election. By 1995, all but one party MP had opted out. But recent changes to the plan, which Hart says have made it more ac-

ceptable by scaling down its benefits, have provoked sharp divisions among Reformers. Hart and two fellow B.C. MPs, John Duncan and Bill Graham have insisted that Reformers remain undecided, including two other British Columbian, Ted White and Jim Gais, both of whom echoed Hart's call for a leadership review. But 31 of the 38 affected party MPs—only those elected before 1995 have the option of renouncing the pension plan—remain opposed. The debate has been bitter. Calgary MP Jason Kenney, who was elected in 1995, declared any one renouncing to the pension plan would be a hypocrite, while Hart denounced Manning for permitting Reform's whip, Chuck Strahl, and House Leader Randy White to threaten MPs with unspecified consequences should they opt back in. It was "unacceptable," Hart said, for Manning to permit such pressure.

A final reprieve

Four Filipino sailors ordered deported from Canada won their last-ditch appeal to remain in the country on compassionate grounds. Renato Dapao, Arnel Bousa, Emmanuel Buitana and Benedicto Manuel were in Halifax in May 1996, claiming six Taiwanese officers on their ship, the *Masada Dohai*, had murdered three Roman Catholic sailors at sea.

The sailors have tried to stay in Canada ever since, saying they would be killed should they be forced to return home. But the Immigration and Refugee Board initially ruled that they had not demonstrated the sort of persistent political persecution that would warrant refugee status. But immigration officials then decided the circumstances of their arrival in Canada and their subsequent work history were enough to grant their request to stay.



World

The terror trail

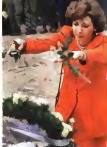
BY DARCY JUNISH

The search for survivors in Nairobi was long and grueling. It went on for 34 hours, day lit at night by lights from a film studio truck and using heavy equipment directed by local construction companies. Officially, it ended on Aug. 13, six days after massive bombs exploded within minutes of each other outside the American embassies in the Kenyan capital and in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, 750 km to the south. By then, rescue workers in both cities had recovered 357 bodies, including those of 17 Americans, and local hospitals were still treating the most serious cases among the estimated 5,500 people injured by the blasts.

But as the search concluded, dozens of FBI and CIA investigators who had flown in from stations around the world, were just beginning to scour the sites for evidence that might lead to the arrests of individuals who planned and carried out the bombings. It was an effort that could take years and still prove fruitless, experts warned. Meanwhile, informed intelligence sources in Washington had concluded that the attacks were the work of a highly organized group with substantial financial backing. "Members of planning went into this operation," a senior U.S. intelligence source told *Newsweek*. "It was a sophisticated job."

By late last week, FBI agents in Nairobi, operating out of temporary offices in the Canadian High Commission, and Kenyan police had questioned five people, while Tanzanian authorities had arrested 11 suspects—six Iraqis, six Saudis, a Somali and a Turk. But no charges had been laid in either country. In fact, investigators were still trying to determine the type of explosive used—in a way that might provide clues to the nature of the terrorist organization behind the attacks. They also believed they had found fragments of the vehicle used in the Nairobi bombing, that U.S. intelligence experts said the number 1 suspect was Osama bin Laden, a renegade Saudi-born millionaire living in the mountains of Afghanistan. He is believed to have been involved in four bombing attacks on American facilities, at home and abroad, since 1992. "The indications are that he is responsible for both of the embassy bombings," Vincent Cannarsa, the former head of CIA counterterrorism and now a security consultant, told *Newsweek*.

In the wake of the attacks, U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright ordered a \$2 million (U.S.) reward—the equivalent of \$1 billion Canadian—for information leading to the conviction of "the cowardly traitor(s) that did this act." President Bill Clinton declared that "no one is innocent here, we want that those responsible for these acts and see that justice is done." Yet, previous investigations of anti-American terrorism abroad have led to few convictions. Since the 1983 bombing



U.S. Ambassador Frances Pritchett (right) at a Nairobi news conference recovering a body from a 'sophisticated'

Investigators hunt for clues to East Africa's bombings



UNUSUAL SUSPECT:

While U.S. investigators were far from agreeing on which they believed the bombings involved, numerous matching clues of Osama bin Laden (left), a suspected Saudi millionaire who backs Islamic fundamentalism from a base in Afghanistan, linked him to the attacks.

was involved in these terror attacks.

- A 1992 hotel bombing in Arba, Yemen, which killed two Americans and narrowly missed 300 U.S. soldiers.
- The 1993 World Trade Center blast in New York City in which six died and more than 3,000 were injured.
- A 1995 explosion in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, which killed five Americans.
- The 1996 Khobar Towers bombing in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, in which 19 U.S. soldiers died.

the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, just over 300 Americans have been killed in attacks on diplomatic or military facilities in the Middle East and Africa. But in the biggest attacks, including Beirut and the 1996 blast that killed 13 U.S. soldiers in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, no one has even been arrested.

The East African bombings, which occurred around 1998 in a local time, were clearly coordinated. The Nairobi explosion happened inside the back of the five-story American Embassy and damaged almost every room. It completely destroyed an adjacent seven-story building that housed officers and a secretarial school, and blew out every window in the 22-story Cooperative Bank of Kenya tower, a second neighborhood structure. Damage to the three-story embassy in Dar es Salaam was less extensive, although 22 cars parked outside were destroyed.

The Tanzania blast caused fewer casualties—20 dead and 70 injured—because the embassy was built of reinforced concrete and is located in the spacious and unsecured diplomatic quarter of the city. Investigators believe that a vehicle was used to deliver the bomb, but by late last week they had been unable to find remnants of a car or truck linked to the attack. The blast created a crater three meters across, near the gate to the embassy compound, and destroyed a water truck that had just arrived to make a delivery. But the investigation was being hampered by a lack of witnesses.

The Nairobi explosion was much more deadly because the U.S. Embassy was situated in the city's bustling downtown core. Two Americans and 335 Kenyans died, while thousands of injured people packed Nairobi's seven hospitals. The blast shattered windows over a 10-block area and damaged buildings 150 m away. But the neighboring United House bore the brunt of the attack. It was reduced to a pile of rubble more than 10 m high. While the damaged concrete removed slabs of concrete, search-and-rescue workers from Israel, Kenya, France and the United States probed the ruins for victims. They found three survivors, and worked desperately to rescue a woman named Rose Wanjiku, who was heard tapping on rubble on Monday, three days after the explosion. But the dead before they could reach her. At last, the teams pulled 55 bodies from the remains of the building.

Recent witnesses observed the arrival of the apparent Nairobi bombers, describing a pickup truck carrying three men. The driver first stopped at a security post in front of the embassy and was told to go to the rear of the building. Investigators assure that the driver intended to enter the underground parking garage but found his way blocked by a sign that was lit on fire. At that point, armed security guards approached the pickup, and a man jumped out of the back and

barred a grenade. The grenade ran over a second vehicle; the explosion occurred, blowing away windows and injuring expert Capt. Roy Jones, who reached the scene shortly after the attack, estimated that the bombs in the two pickups each contained between 40 and 200 lb of explosive. Investigators were searching for traces of a Czech-manufactured substance, known as Semtex, which the three men poured that TNT. The presence of Semtex would support the theory that the attacks were the work of a sophisticated terrorist organization because the Czechs sold thousands of tons of the explosive to Middle Eastern and African governments, as well as some terrorist organizations, during the 1980s. Investigators suspect that former Saudi cleric bin Laden was involved because he is one of the few terrorists with the resources and experience to carry out such attacks. He was born into a wealthy and influential Saudi family that made billions of dollars from arranging construction contracts with the country's royal family. As a teenager, he became deeply religious and in a mosque in the early 1980s he fought with Islamic volunteers in Afghanistan against Soviet forces. In 1991, he moved to Sudan, where he established terrorist camps and launched a campaign to remove all American presence from the Middle East. Three years later, the Saudi government expelled him, claiming that, by then, he had already received his inheritance, estimated at \$40 million.

Since 1991, when he was expelled from Sudan under pressure from the Saudis, bin Laden has lived in increasingly appointed nests in Afghanistan with his family and chief advisers. American intelligence agencies agree that bin Laden is a private army of 3,000 advanced followers who have fought for Islamic causes in Afghanistan, Albania and elsewhere. He is also suspected of planning terrorist attacks such as the 1983 bombing of the World Trade Center in New York City and the 1986 attack in Saudi Arabia. Recently he issued a call for Muslims to kill Americans, and in an interview in late May with ABC News correspondent John Miller, he called Americans "infidels" and "terrorists."

According to intelligence experts, the East African bombings required enormous resources and planning, and perhaps even assistance from a rogue government. While Iraq's moderate President Mohamed Khadafi has warmed towards Washington, they noted the country's intelligence services still controlled by hard-liners. But whoever was behind the bombings, it was clear that the United States faces a formidable enemy, one that thrives on secrecy and could easily strike again.

BY WILLIAM FLORES for *Newsweek* and JENNIFER GLASSER in Nairobi



WORLD SLOVAKIA

Wanting out of the slow lane

Staying a Guinness in the Bratislava Bratislava's Bratislava, Daniel Borsky is discussing his career plans and the state of his country. The somewhat exotic-looking, bald in the old part of town has become a favorite meeting place for the young and trendy among Bratislava's 500,000 residents. With his closely cropped hair and casual clothes, Borsky could pass for a recent Canadian university graduate. Over the din in the packed room, he announces that he is taking up his job as managing editor of the local English-language newspaper, *The Slovak Spectator*, to work as a freelance translator and writer. Far from doing business in the city pay well for these skills, "I've shouldn't do the same thing for too long," he says.

Thirty years ago this week, people like Borsky and the crowd in the pub would have been on the street shaking their fists at Soviet tanks that occupied the city, shouting at them to go home. The armed columns had come during the night of Jan. 20 to 21, 1968, to crush the reform of Alexander Dubcek, a Slovak, who became chief of Czechoslovakia's Communist party, and tried to reform the Soviet brand of Marxism into "socialism with a human face." Soviet forces stayed for more than 20 years—until the fall of Communism in 1989. Had he been around in '89, Borsky, who is 27, might well have joined the crowds of bright young people in Western countries—including Canada, which took in some 11,000 well-educated Czechs and Slovaks—in the months following the invasion.

Today, Borsky would not dream of being anywhere except in his native Bratislava, now the capital of Slovakia, which split from the Czech Republic in 1993. He has seen some of the outside world. He spent several months as an intern at the Chicago Tribune, courtesy of an American foundation. Other fellowships took him to Holland and Denmark to study the European Union, which Slovakia agrees to join.

There is only one thing that might get Borsky to leave: the prospect of seemingly unending rule by Slovakia's autocratic premier, Vladimir Meciar. Many Slovaks think that due to Meciar's poor international image, their country has failed to attract the kind of foreign investment sought by the Czech Republic, say, or Hungary, in a highly competi-



Meciar (right) shakes hands (left) last year; Borsky (right) shaking hands with a friend in Bratislava (left) in Bratislava

tive atmosphere. "There is nothing in Slovakia that a company can't also find in a neighboring country," notes senior Western diplomat. But like other Slovak young people, Borsky is an optimist. A change of leadership, he believes, could come as soon as next month's parliamentary elections. Then, Meciar's critics hope, a new coalition may finally bring the 5.6 million Slovaks fully into the European capital market. A tough former amateur boxer, Meciar led Slovakia out of the election and has dominated its politics ever since. His support comes

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WORLD

mainly from the older generation and from predominantly rural central and eastern Slovakia. The 56-year-old son of a village tailor, he is a charismatic figure, masterful at playing to Slovakia's national sentiments.

Meciar runs the country in a controversial style with the help of a well-oiled political machine—a sort of master-servant of the one that kept Maurice Duplessis in power in Quebec until the late 1950s. But the old Czechoslovak born Hlinka resemblance to Canada. Czechs and Slovaks carved a country out of the ruins of the Austro-Hungarian empire following the First World War, and despite the clearly at least languages, it was always an uneasy union. After the Velvet Revolution of 1989, the country soon came apart in what is known as the "velvet divorce."

The catalyst was a disagreement following the 1990 election on how best to transform the economy from the Communist system. The clear winner in the Czech region was a party led by Václav Klaus, an economist and self-proclaimed admirer of Margaret Thatcher who pushed for a quick transformation to a free market. Meciar, a central Communist who party received the most votes in Slovakia, argued for a slower pace. Despite opinion polls showing that the majority wanted to keep the country together, Meciar and Klaus negotiated a split without a referendum.

As independent Slovakia's prime minister, Meciar showed himself to be ruthless, ambitious and vengeful. When he was involved in a bitter feud with President Michal Kovac, ranked next in line behind the president's son and uncle, Bratislava in 1992 and threatened to leave the country. Kovac's son, Milan Rastislav Štefánik, had been born there, but was killed in Germany. A witness who implicated the Meciar-controlled Slovak secret police, the SIB, was blown up in his car. Meciar has pardoned all who were involved in the case.

The country has had no president since Kovac's term ended last March, and Meciar has taken over his largely ceremonial duties. In five years, the parliament has failed to elect a successor; a candidate needs the support of three-fifths of the 130 deputies. Last year, Meciar's minority ministry created a constitutional crisis as an opposition inspired referendum on direct election of the president that few ever turned out and the results were declared invalid.

Meciar, who speaks fluent Russian and clearly feels more comfortable in Moscow than in the West, has hardly enhanced foreign confidence in the country. An ill-fated visit last July to Alexander Dubcek, the reformer of 1968, was still alive. Slovakia's image would get a boost much like the Czech Republic, which capitalized on the personality of the late Josef, its now-deceased president and a former dissident who died in 1989 as the result of a car accident but continually showed up in polls as the most admired Slovak in recent history.

With only minimal foreign investment, the standard of living at the No. 1 concern for people. There are signs that even Meciar's supporters feel he is holding the country back. The average monthly wage in 1992 was only \$308, compared with \$430 in the Czech Republic and \$511 in Poland. It makes many Slovaks feel the country is too unable to join the Czech Republic, Poland and Hungary in the first round of post-Communist countries to be invited to join the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Despite opposition accusations that he is a dictator, Meciar allows



Bratislava's old town: no regrets about the breakup

Many believe Meciar is holding the country back

In the elections scheduled for Sept. 25 and 26, polls indicate that a combination of opposition parties may get enough votes to form a government. And, for the first time, an opposition personality has emerged who may be a serious challenger to Meciar. He is Rudolf Schuster, the popular mayor of the country's No. 2 city, Košice, and a former Czechoslovakian ambassador to Canada. Only a few months ago, he founded the pro-free party for Civic Understanding, which has registered 16 to 18 per cent in recent polls. "These numbers hold—and are combined with the 25 per cent scored by the main opposition coalition, known as the SOK, and the one per cent for the parties representing the Hungarian minority—Meciar could be out."

But he is expected to use every possible tool to stay in power. A few weeks before the start of the month-long campaign, his government passed a law that prohibits privately owned broadcasters from airing political advertising and from broadcasting anything that might be considered "political propaganda." That was clearly aimed at the privately owned station TV Markiza, which draws 60 per cent of the national audience and backs Schuster. State-owned television, needless to say, carries Meciar's speeches gallop to power. The ruling party has also mounted a Supreme Court challenge to the electoral legitimacy of the opposition coalition. The SOK's chair, Milanus Dvorak, has labelled the manoeuvre an attempt to destroy the democratic system in Slovakia, and the leader of the Hungarian parties says the opposition might boycott the election.

One topic that will not figure in the voting is dissatisfaction with the Czech Republic. Five years after the split, there are no regrets. "We did not break the breakup—it was the doing of two politicians," says Andrej Hryco, one of Slovakia's leading actors and owner of the private radio station Tis. "But now that it has happened, there is no going back. We want to look ahead." To ambitious young Slovaks like David Horvath, the election will tell whether they can look ahead to a place in the European Union—or at least being left behind by their central European neighbors.

PETER DESROSIERS

a thriving anti-government press and electronic media. Bratislava, where his support is minimal, remains strong. Much of the historic architecture in the old city's centre remains, although the outskirts are gobbled by jumble, the ugly and cheaply built Communist-era apartment blocks scattered all over Eastern Europe. Cakes and restaurants abound and are crowded with tourists. But while annual growth stands at six per cent, foreign debt is high and the World Bank has called for economic reforms. Unemployment averaged a staggering 13.2 per cent in 1992, against 9.2 per cent for the Czech Republic.

"The biggest sin of this government is that since 1993 it has made no progress in containing the economic transformation," says Vilma Vankovic, an economist and opposition MP. "Enterprises can avoid the harsh realities of the open market and still show good results. There are many that lose money and continue to operate."

People cope by holding onto that one job or finding a way to turn a profit. "I didn't know a TMB [bus] was a common stock when I started in this business," says motorcycle rider Hana, a 35-year-old former mathematician. But after learning the trade at the local branch of Barclays Bank, he opened the industry's difficult coast and spent his own first

Automotive Marketplace

Negotiating for a Vehicle

Dennis DesRosiers



In previous articles I have written about the financing and pricing of vehicles. In this article I will discuss the purchasing process from a consumer perspective.

According to Statistics Canada the average transac-

tion price of a new vehicle was more than \$27,000 in 1992. It now takes 28.2 weeks of after-tax family income to buy a new vehicle, compared to less than 20 weeks in 1988. Vehicle prices have increased on average by 6.4 per cent per year over the last 15 years. Much of this increase has been caused by the safety and environmental equipment mandated by government. Consumers have also moved to larger, more powerful and more fully optioned vehicles that cost more—especially light trucks. Light trucks now account for close to 50 per cent of vehicle sales and consumers tend to buy them fully loaded. Sport utility vehicles can easily cost over \$40,000 so consumers had better understand the purchase negotiating process.

There are a variety of factors involved, including how incentives work, the cost of option packages, how much room a dealer has to negotiate, and financing choices. However, the basic process of negotiating the best deal for a vehicle is no different than for any other product. There are three elements to any negotiating process—time, information and money.

To get a good deal on a vehicle, consumers need to make sure they are in the power position with each

of the variables. If you are a consumer who wants to the last minute to buy a vehicle, have no idea what kind of vehicle you want, and are relying on the dealer to find a way for you to pay for it, then I can guarantee you are likely to pay the top price. Consumers who take their time and shop around, know what they are looking for, are knowledgeable about the vehicle they want and understand the money side of the transaction will generally get a better deal.

Let's discuss each variable separately. First is the element of time. Have you ever noticed how almost all advertisements have a time limit? "Come to our weekend event", "only available until the end of the month", "act now, supplies are limited". These are common advertising slogans designed to get the element of time on the dealer's side. And it works... otherwise the automotive industry would not advertise this way.

I cannot stress to consumers enough the importance of getting started early in the buying process, especially those driving a leased vehicle. A leased vehicle has a definite termination date on which the consumer has to return it. If they are leasing, consumers should start shopping for their next vehicle at least six months before the lease expires. This will allow them the time to shop around and test drive a number of competitive products. Leases are designed to bring the consumer back to the car dealership so it can sell another vehicle. Indeed, the dealer will call you months before your lease expires and try to sell you another vehicle. If you are interested in another vehicle of the same make then there is nothing wrong with that, but if you want to change models, then shopping early is essential. If

you decide to re-lease at the same dealer, then the dealer will often let you out of your lease contract early, but if you change models then you likely have to wait until the lease expires. Some dealers will buy out another dealer's lease but this is unusual.

If your vehicle is paid for or if you have a loan then there is usually no fundamental reason why a consumer has to run out and get the latest deal advertised in the weekend newspaper. I can assure you that although every incentive offered has an end date to entice the consumers to act quickly, if you let the deal pass it is only a matter of time before another incentive on the same vehicle or a similar vehicle from a different company is offered. The vehicle companies are hooked on incentives and

eventually most vehicles are offered at a discount. The average new vehicle buyer trades every six or seven years. Vehicles are now so well built there should be no mechanical reason for consumers to rush out to get the latest discount in the market.

One exception would be year-end clearance sales on previous year models. These are generally available from August to November. The vehicle manufacturers usually change over and begin producing new model year product during the summer. They will often discount the previous model year's cars. However, there are a couple of things to be aware of. First, choice is limited since your vehicle is not being produced to your specification. Highly optioned vehicles are prized and sell early, so year-end clearance sales are often of vehicles

with fewer options and/or vehicles which have not sold well during the year. Second, since consumers are buying very late in the model year, they lose one year of depreciation very quickly. If you are going to keep the vehicle for a long time (at least seven years) then this does not matter. If you plan to trade it in a year or two then the resale value will be lower.

The second variable consumers must understand is information. They say "Information is Power", and it really is true. The more consumers can learn about a vehicle and the purchase process, the better position they will be in to get a better deal. A key element of the time variable and shopping early is to provide enough time to properly research which vehicle to purchase and to collect as much information as possible. With the Internet,

1998 CLEAR-OUT EVENT

Chrysler Clears the Way for Extreme Summer Savings.

Things have gotten a little out of hand around Chrysler showrooms lately.

Their 1998 Clear-Out Event has resulted in thousands of car savvy Canadians flocking to check out the award winning vehicles. Not only are these cars and trucks priced to move but most also come with a zero percent purchase financing rate. Something that was unheard of in past years.

CHRYSLER'S 1998 CLEAR-OUT EVENT.

**0%+ PURCHASE FINANCING
UP TO 36 MONTHS**



1998 Dodge Stratus from 238 Package

\$299 per month
*No money down.
*No money back.
*No money out.
*No money in.
*No money out.
*No money in.



1998 Plymouth Breeze, Dodge Stratus 2.6A Package

0% Financing per month **\$219** per month



1998 Jeep Grand Cherokee Limited (40) Package

0% Financing per month **\$328** per month



1998 Chrysler Stratus 2.0E Package

0% Financing per month **\$299** per month



1998 Dodge Grand Caravan, Plymouth Grand Voyager 2.6L Limited Woodstock Package

0% Financing per month **\$228** per month



1998 Dodge Stratus, Plymouth Voyager 2.0E Family 400 Package

0% Financing per month **\$198** per month



1998 Dodge Ram 2500 4x4 250 Package

0% Financing per month **\$198** per month

SEE YOUR LOCAL CHRYSLER RETAILER FOR GREAT 48 AND 60 MONTH FINANCING OPTIONS, STARTING FROM A LOW 1.8%.



Only at your neighbourhood Chrysler retailer.



consumers are now in an excellent position to gather information. Every vehicle company and about half of the car dealers in Canada have Web sites, and there are a number of independent sites. These Web sites contain a wealth of product and other information. If access to the Internet is a problem, then consumers can purchase a variety of inexpensive magazines that can also help. The Canadian Automobile Association (CAA) has an excellent annual publication called *Autopilot*. The Automobile Protection Association (APA) also has a regular publication which can be quite informative.

All these sources, however, can only provide written information. The very best way to gather a sense of which vehicle to buy is to test drive a variety.

BY TEST DRIVING VEHICLES
CONSUMERS WILL GATHER
INFORMATION ON:

- THE PHYSICAL ELEMENTS
OF THE VEHICLE
- DESIGN ELEMENTS
- DRIVE CHARACTERISTICS
AND HANDLING
- AVAILABLE OPTIONS

But more important than simply test driving the vehicle, consumers will also be "test driving" the dealership. It is critical to develop a positive relationship with the dealer. Through the process of test driving the dealer's product, consumers will have first-hand experience on the professionalism and knowledge of the staff, the level of trust they exhibit and whether you want to buy a vehicle from them. I believe consumers should trust their

gut. If deep down they feel uncomfortable, then they should not buy from that particular dealer, and go somewhere else. Consumers, however, have to be honest with the dealer. Tell the dealer you want to test drive four or five different makes and that you are not prepared to buy at that moment. If they put a lot of pressure on consumers, then that alone should indicate that perhaps this is not the place to buy a vehicle.

It is also very easy to get caught up in the buying process or to fall in love with a vehicle. There is nothing wrong with this but remember it will usually result in paying a higher price. The salesman may suggest that there is a great "deal" on your vehicle and you will resist it if you do not buy on the spot. Remember my first variable—time. The dealer is trying to take con-

1999 Subaru Outback Sedan

The world's best sport utility sedan, the Subaru Outback Sedan fits the need this summer. This new version gives drivers the versatility and ruggedness of an All-Wheel Drive sport utility vehicle, with the ride, comfort and luxury of a refined sedan.

The exterior of the new Outback Sedan is as refined as it is sporty. Alloy wheels with polished finish and gold accents complement Black Granite Pearl, Glacier White, Winestone Pearl, or Spice Pearl, all combined with a two-tone Side Gray. The distinctive dual type front grille, power moon roof,

hood scoop and rear spoiler all add to this vehicle's sleek good looks.

Inside, the Outback Sedan is equipped for comfort. Air conditioning will keep everyone cool in the summer, while a leather interior with rose-wood centre console and heated, dual-mode front seats will keep passengers warm and comfortable when it's cold outside. A premium sound system featuring AM/FM/Cassette/CD with six speakers and a unique weather band radio means happy passengers and a driver who knows what to expect on the road ahead.

As well as all the conveniences that drivers look for are included. Water is not so bad with heated outside mirrors and a windshield wiper de-icer. In addition, the Subaru Outback Sedan has keyless entry and front door courtesy lamps that shed new light on getting in and out. Inside, storage pockets on the back of front seats, dual rearview vanity mirrors, and on-vent glass-on-side and rear windows will add to both the vehicle's comfort and passenger convenience.

This exciting new product is now available at a
Subaru dealer near you. Call 1-800-875-64WD or visit our
website at www.subaru.ca.



The 1999 Outback Sedan. Built by Subaru in North America. Please contact your nearest Subaru dealer for more information.

The Subaru All-Wheel Drive Outback

Volvo says All-Wheel Drive can save your soul.
Subaru says, welcome to heaven.

"Subaru's new, best-selling All-Wheel Drive sales for years, for which Volvo's sales personnel called All-Wheel Drive "the days the most impressive sales strategy ever" is a feature that can't save your soul" it's a feature in a high price bracket. After all, Subaru brought the very first passenger car with an all-wheel driving system to North America back in 1975. And for the day, we're the only company that builds All-Wheel Drive into every model. That's why Subaru will be on the light and put All-Wheel Drive on all their cars, too. That's why we're just happy to welcome new owners to the fold. Visit www.subaru.ca or call 1-800-875-64WD for more information.

SUBARU
The Beauty of All-Wheel Drive™

BUFFALO Buffalo Sales 1000 Main Street Buffalo, NY 14203 Tel: 716-835-1111	ONTARIO Ontario Sales 1000 Main Street Ontario, ON L1N 1B1 Tel: 905-881-1111	QUEBEC Quebec Sales 1000 Main Street Quebec, QC G1N 1B1 Tel: 514-881-1111	ALBERTA Alberta Sales 1000 Main Street Alberta, AB T1N 1B1 Tel: 403-881-1111	BRITISH COLUMBIA British Columbia Sales 1000 Main Street Vancouver, BC V6N 1B1 Tel: 604-881-1111	MANITOBA Manitoba Sales 1000 Main Street Winnipeg, MB R3N 1B1 Tel: 204-881-1111	SASKATCHEWAN Saskatchewan Sales 1000 Main Street Saskatoon, SK S7N 1B1 Tel: 306-881-1111	ONTARIO Ontario Sales 1000 Main Street Toronto, ON M5N 1B1 Tel: 416-881-1111	QUEBEC Quebec Sales 1000 Main Street Montreal, QC H3N 1B1 Tel: 514-881-1111	ALBERTA Alberta Sales 1000 Main Street Calgary, AB T2N 1B1 Tel: 403-881-1111	BRITISH COLUMBIA British Columbia Sales 1000 Main Street Vancouver, BC V6N 1B1 Tel: 604-881-1111	MANITOBA Manitoba Sales 1000 Main Street Winnipeg, MB R3N 1B1 Tel: 204-881-1111	SASKATCHEWAN Saskatchewan Sales 1000 Main Street Saskatoon, SK S7N 1B1 Tel: 306-881-1111	ONTARIO Ontario Sales 1000 Main Street Toronto, ON M5N 1B1 Tel: 416-881-1111	QUEBEC Quebec Sales 1000 Main Street Montreal, QC H3N 1B1 Tel: 514-881-1111	ALBERTA Alberta Sales 1000 Main Street Calgary, AB T2N 1B1 Tel: 403-881-1111
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All Subarus come with 3-year CAA Roadside Assistance.

mand of the time element. If this happens to you, tell the dealer, "That's fine, I'll just buy a different make somewhere else."

The final element to negotiating is money. Financing a vehicle can be very complex. The lowest cost financing method is to pay cash. Most consumers cannot do this so it means deciding whether to get a loan and where to go for your financing. I wrote an article in the June 8, 1990 edition of the Automotive Marketplace in Maclean's which explains financing options. Again it is important to understand the process and

issues in financing a vehicle. It used to be the case that a better loan rate could be obtained by arranging financing ahead of time. This is no longer true. Financial institutions compete for dealers' business and it is possible to get lower rates at your dealer than at the bank. Not always, but again consumers need to take their time, gather a lot of information about the finance products and then choose the best target.

Remember, in all aspects of negotiating for a vehicle, if you keep time, information and money on your side, a better deal is possible. ■

Canada's Automotive Dealers Dialogue with Consumers

Are you considering a new car or truck?

Car brokers, consultants and buy/sell clubs make a lot of promises for the membership, commission and consultant fees they pay. What value do you get for the fee?

Reprinted from the June 8, 1990 Automotive Marketplace due to popular demand.



Robert K. (Bob) Phares,
CEO CADA/ADA

THEY SAY:

- Bundle free pre-negotiated prices



- You will save hundreds over thousands

- Most people have a bad experience during the buying process.

WHAT WE SAY:

- They can't guarantee the best price for your trade.
- They don't include the hidden fees and commissions in their quotes.
- They provide no written guarantees.
- There is simply not enough mark-up on new cars to justify the statement.
- They cannot prove this so-called savings is off the average/normal selling price in the market.
- Any reputable survey rates the customer buy/sell process at an all time high 50 per cent.
- Most of our business is repeat customer business.

Year	Passenger	Light
1994	\$19,999	19.0
1993	\$19,384	18.0
1992	\$18,236	17.6
1991	\$17,997	16.6
1990	\$14,908	20.5
1989	\$14,307	20.0
1988	\$17,444	20.8
1987	\$16,384	21.0
1986	\$16,616	21.2
1985	\$17,192	20.6
1984	\$16,171	20.1
1983	\$16,040	20.0
1982	\$16,027	20.9
1981	\$16,147	20.1
1980	\$15,199	27.5
1979	\$14,999	26.0
1978	\$14,999	24.0

NEW CAR DEALERS ACROSS THE C.T.A. WANT YOUR NEXT CAR/TRUCK PURCHASE OR LEASE TO BE OUTSTANDING.

FACT: Seven ways that you can make your next car purchase more enjoyable, more informative and very rewarding.

- 1) **Prepare yourself.** Read consumer guides, check the manufacturer's and dealer's Internet sites. Become familiar with the products. Compare manufacturer's and dealer's models.
- 2) **Avoid telephone shopping.** This is a major purchase and there are many details to be considered and documented. Avoid any misinterpretations.
- 3) **Contact the dealership in advance.** Make an appointment. This prevents waiting and ensures that you get the attention you deserve.
- 4) **Allow 60 minutes for the demonstration.** Set aside at least an hour to a review leasing and purchase options as well as financing.
- 5) **Take your time.** Read the contract carefully and ask questions. It is a legal contract with terms and conditions to which both parties agree.
- 6) **If you are making a year-round vehicle, make sure it is clean.** Ensure that all maintenance requirements have been met and verified, if necessary.
- 7) **Look on Sunday... buy on Monday.** We are closed on Sunday to allow for family time. We know you like to walk around and look at prices and models at your leisure. Come back and see us sometime the next week.

C70 Convertible lets the sun shine in - on Volvo's new image

Volvo is mixing the safe (and lowering the top) in the image contest now being waged in the personal luxury car marketplace. With the introduction of the C70 Convertible the fall, Volvo will bring us the open-air cousin of the curvaceous C70 Coupe. Like the Coupe, the Convertible is as muscular as it looks. A strong 190 horsepower engine and sport suspension give it speed and agility that certify its sporting appearance.

Volvo has always been fun to drive. Ask any Volvo driver. Ask the owners of the many pristine-condition older Volvos that ply their roads why they continue to pump out other, venerable conveyances. They'll tell you about countless journeys enjoyed, about the strength and personality of their vehicles - and about fun.

Yet today's Volvos are not only fun to drive, they also look like they're fun to drive.

It was a couple of years ago, when Volvo announced the C70 Coupe, that the concern began to fall off the company's staid image. Shortly thereafter, the convertibles began to come off Volvo's family car, to be replaced by another, more aggressive cousin and a less modest attitude toward driving pleasure.

Volvo is being more aggressive in the family car marketplace, too. For instance, with Volvo Financial Services' remarkably affordable lease and finance arrangements on the S70 GLE sedan, known within the Volvo organization as the "value car", one might think the model is lacking some amenities. On the contrary, this special Volvo includes every feature on the S70's extensive standard equipment list, plus high-value extras like leather interior, CD player and alloy wheels.

There are more surprises to come from Volvo, with a revolutionary new car arriving later this year.



Volvo C70 Convertible

Drop into any CADA New car dealer and let us show you how great your next purchase or lease can be!!!!



Volvo S70 GTA

\$299

4.8% lease rate

YOU EXPECT ADVANCED SAFETY-ENGINEERING, SUPERB STYLING AND SATISFYING VALUE IN A NEW VOLVO. THIS SPECIALLY-EQUIPPED 1988 VOLVO S70 DELIVERS ALL THE EXPECTED VOLVO VIRTUES, PLUS THE UNEXPECTED ADDED ATTRIBUTES OF SUMPTUOUS LEATHER SEATING, IN-DASH CD PLAYER, RIMMED ALLOY WHEELS AND A FRIENDLY 4.9% LEASE RATE. DRIVE THIS SPECIAL S70 AT YOUR AUTHORIZED VOLVO RETAILER. IT WILL EXCEED YOUR EXPECTATIONS. OFFER ENDS AUGUST 31, 1988.

DRIVE SAFELY.

VOLVO

Ask about flexible leasing arrangements. Examples: \$385 lease per month with \$3000 down, \$614 lease per month with \$0 down.

Limit time offer ends August 31, 1998. Slightly squared by September 3, 1998. Available through participating Volvo dealers and Volvo Financial Services on approved credit to qualified Volvo customers only. Offer is combined with other offers. Lease based on \$299/\$299/\$5341 per month for 36 months on a specially designed 1998 Volvo S70 2.5T with dealer-installed \$22,764.50 4-door V40R. Lease has 18,000 miles/year allowance (\$2.15/mile over mileage). Down payment or equivalent of \$2735/\$2999/\$2999 required. Freight, PDI, taxes, license and insurance rates. First month's payment and security deposit required. Purchase vehicle at end of lease for \$23,545. Residual may vary by location. See your Volvo retailer for dealer rules and restrictions. ©1998 Volvo Cars of North America, Inc. Volvo is a registered trademark of Volvo Cars of North America, Inc. Always remember to wear your seat belt. For car specifications, visit www.volvocars.com.

World NOTES

A car bomb in Northern Ireland killed up to two dozen people, the worst terrorist incident in the British province in decades. The blast, in the crowded shopping district of Omagh, a religiously mixed town 110 km west of Belfast, is one of several since a May referendum strongly endorsed the Good Friday power-sharing arrangement aimed at ending Ulster's sectarian warfare.

CONGO'S CHAOS

CHILD MURDERS

CHINA'S FLOODS SPREAD

TRAGEDY AT VINYL

BLOWING A BILLION:

A Swiss deal on Jewish assets

certificates of those who had perished in the concentration camps. Then, the World Jewish Congress seized the issue under the leadership of Edgar Bronfman and applied public and political pressure on the Swiss. But it was not until wealthy states such as California and New York threatened boycotts and other measures that the Swiss banks agreed to settle.

As part of the deal, officials must drop any plans for sanctions and Jewish groups must drop all legal action. The deal also protects other banks and the Swiss government from further claims. Some Jewish groups were concerned about how the money will be dispersed among the various claimants around the world, including about 100 in Canada, since no process was spelled out. But many Jewish leaders said they were relieved that an emotional struggle for justice is finally over.

The Queen, a book—and Diana's jewels



Getting the hook at Livent

BY KIMBERLEY NOBLE

Imagine what it must have been like for Garth Drabinsky: a person who is, above all else, accustomed to acting his own way. Whether he is being charming or bombastic, whether it involves incanting an extravagant Broadway musical or raising millions of dollars in stock markets, Drabinsky has made bluffing and cajoling the people around him into an art, rivaling whatever he accomplishes on the stage. He is so good at eliminating obstacles that he fully expected to be able to continue to do so, even last spring after losing control of his live theatre company, Livent Inc., to a group of entertainment executives headed by former Walt Disney Co. president Michael Ovitz. How then did it end, only on June 30, to be summarised, along with laughter, business partner and Livent cofounder Myron Gottlieb, before Livent's board of directors at a meeting in which, suddenly, none of Drabinsky's friends and business associates were persuaded by anything he had to say?

Nobody knows, said, for the first time in years, Drabinsky isn't talking. But in a plot twist that has taken Ray Stewart and the *Canada* film theatre community by surprise, Drabinsky and Gottlieb emerged from the meeting accused of having spent more than two years hiding Livent's financial problems from the board. Both executives, who following the sale to Ovitz were respectively Livent's vice-chairman and vice-president of Canadian administration, were suspended from their jobs. They have not been allowed back into Livent's headquarters despite repeated requests. In a dramatic gesture before the incident before the curtain goes down on the first act, Livent's executive officers were made good on a pending arrival of the firm's financial records.

The last time Drabinsky spoke with *Maclean's*, in April, he pointed on a question about the similarity between what was happening at Livent and past events at Complex Odeon Corp. in 1989: "There's not even a comparison," Drabinsky growled.

And turn out, he was right. At Complex, Drabinsky and Gottlieb had turned to make their exit in style, taking with them Canadian rights to Andrew Lloyd Webber's hit musical *The Phantom of the Opera*. From then they created Live Entertainment Corp. and began building and renovating grand theatres in cities that now include Toronto, Vancouver, New York City and Chicago, as well as charming out their own lavish musical productions. The last in



Drabinsky, a stage actor, raised money and managed Livent.

Questions are raised about how the company kept its books

event has been unwilling to elaborate, other than to insist that attempting the accounting trail will have no adverse effect on cash flow, upcoming interest payments, or the company's ability to go forward with theatrical projects. For their part, Drabinsky and Gottlieb issued a single statement late the first day asserting that they are also "surprised and dismayed" at the board's actions. "We have insufficient details to respond more fully."

Investors are in a similar quandary. The Toronto Stock Exchange and the Nasdaq Stock Market in the United States immediately halted trading in Livent's shares and have refused to let the stock change hands until the public gets more information. The Ontario Securities Commission's enforcement arm ordered four staff members to start combing through Livent's financial statements. The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission is expected to follow. As are the investors. By Friday, nine U.S. law firms had already filed class action suits.

Livent officials say accounting suits will be revealed only when they know the outcome of the internal investigation, conducted by KPMG Investigations & Security Inc. But details of what the new management has found are trickling out. The most dramatic allegation

confronted by sources close to the company, is that previous Livent management kept two separate sets of financial records—one set to show the board and shareholders, and a second from which to actually run their operations. The first set of records made the company look more profitable by shifting costs that might otherwise be subtracted from profit on to the company's statement of assets—a practice known as capitalizing expenses. Livent is alleged to have reallocated expenses from productions that were about to close to ones that were still running. In some cases, theatrical production costs were attributed to construction projects—in methods practices that would disguise the true cost of producing and advertising Livent's shows.

Drabinsky and Gottlieb's spokesmen deny his claims kept two sets of books and said they have been left "boiling at shadows" in a climate that they view as "rather Kafkaesque." Such melodrama is the last thing Livent's shareholders and employees want to hear. But like the rest of the audience, they can wait until the key players decide to come out from the wings.

WITH TOM KENNEL AND JOHN SCARFELLO
in Toronto

THE SKEPTIC WAS GAGGED

Drabinsky knows exactly what Garth Drabinsky and Myron Gottlieb are supposed to have done that was serious enough to prompt Livent Inc.'s board of directors to suspend them. As soon as news broke that the company's new management had launched an internal investigation of the founders' accounting practices, however, one thing was certain: a lot of people in the investment business immediately wondered what this might mean for Alex Winch.

Winch, 34, is a Toronto investment analyst who made his reputation—and a lot of money for his clients in the late 1980s—taking apart Drabinsky and Gottlieb's financial statements. For the past two years, he has been under a gag order that prevents him from publishing research or even talking about Livent. The reason? A 1996 letter to *Forbes* magazine told Livent in which Winch said the company's accounting was not as conservative as management said. He pointed out that the company was consuming more cash than it generated if, like Drabinsky himself acknowledged to *Maclean's* in April, he also concluded, based on an analysis of Livent's public documents, that the company was using sophisticated accounting techniques to postpone the day of reckoning when it would be forced to sub-



Winch, married by Livent, he was forced to recant criticism of the company's accounting.

stret the cost of some of its musical extravaganzas from profits. Livent—which, by 1996 and 1997, was routinely reluctant to provide corporate information to investment analysts who questioned its accounting—promptly said Winch for \$10 million. Winch still cannot discuss the case, but could document how he defended the suit for almost a year—assuming with the company over a year that look remarkably similar to the accounting matters that current Livent managers are investigating now.

Investment sources familiar with Winch's situation say he settled out of court when it became evident he could not match Livent's ability to pay against legal bills. He spent \$25,000 to publish an apology in *Forbes*, *The Globe and Mail* and *The Wall Street Journal*. In the apologies, Winch said he was mistaken, and that Livent's accounting policies should be properly described as conservative. Spokesmen for Livent said last week that senior management now has busy trying to untangle the company's past accounting practices to address the question of what, if anything, should be done about Winch's case. They might want to reconsider. With his track record, Winch might be able to help.

K.N.

The thrill of success

Micheline Charest and her husband, Harold Weinberg, do not have to look hard—at home or abroad—for signs of success. On a recent family holiday in Jerusalem, they spied a television broadcast of *Are You Afraid of the Dark?* "Every time I see one [of our shows] when I'm travelling around the world, it gives me a thrill," says Weinberg, co-founder and president of Montreal-based Cinar Films Inc. The firm is putting eager to find. The publicly held company produces a wealth of children's programs for broadcast in 150 countries, including the Emmy Award-winning animated series *Arthur*. With record revenues of \$60.7 million and a profit of nearly \$12 million for the 1987 fiscal year, the industry has also taken notice. In December, the daily Hollywood Reporter named Charest, who shares duties as Cinar's chief executive officer with her husband, No. 59 on its list of the 50 most powerful women in the entertainment industry—ahead of such Hollywood heavyweights as Barbra Streisand (32) and Madonna (34). But Charest refuses to hog the limelight. "I didn't do it on my own," she tells her husband. "I didn't do it on my own."

Since turning Cinar in 1976, the couple has turned it from a fledgling film distributor into one of Canada's leading producers of children's television programs, along with Toronto's Nelvana Ltd. With strong finances and a knack for creating appealing, non-violent shows, Cinar sits rivaled on stock market analysts and television program managers alike. And the company shows no signs of slowing down, with its biggest-ever production slate and a recent expansion into educational publishing. "They're an incredible success story," says David McIntyre, an enterprising analyst with Griffiths, McBurney & Partners in Montreal, who prides, among other things, on Cinar's success in placing its shows with U.S. broadcasters. That success has been mirrored on the stock market. In the last three years, the stock price, adjusted for a two-for-one split in May, has risen from a low of \$6.63 to a close last week at the \$55.20 range.

Charest and Weinberg hold fort in Cinar's Montreal offices where a huge staffed base—a replica of the star of their animated adventures of *Paddling Bear* series—sits in the reception area. With a staff of more than 400 and a few hundred more on contract, they have distanced themselves from day-to-day production. Weinberg, 47, originally from New York City, became an financing and marketing while Charest, 45, concentrates on production development and international markets. "We've always played good cop, bad cop," says Charest, who grew up in

Quebec City and studied at the London International Film School. The couple met in 1976 at a New Orleans film festival that Weinberg was organizing. Charest, then a freelance producer at the National Film Board, ended up helping him with the festival. "The rest," says Charest, as she and Weinberg share a laugh, "is history."

"They started out by distributing foreign-produced films to U.S. theaters and in 1979, moved to New York where they became involved in television distribution. A few years after relocating to Montreal in 1984, the couple decided to start producing their own programs. Circumstance led them to children's shows. "The kids' business was a good place to start," Charest says.

"This is where a lot of independents with no track record and no money could actually do something." As parents of two young sons, Eric and Allen, now 12 and 13, Charest jokes that they had their own "in-house focus group."

Their timing and their decision to focus on non-violent programs proved fortuitous. There was not much competition, says Weinberg, in producing children's programs and the emerging specialty channels in Canada and the United States needed family programs. Early on, the couple concentrated on putting-together partnerships. For their first effort in 1987, *The Wonderful World of Oo*, a half-hour animated version,

Cinar Films wins awards and profit in television for kids



Clockwise from above, Charest and Weinberg; *Lassie*; *Animal Crackers*; and *Paddling Bear*: a lot production slate and plans for U.S. expansion

they brought in Japanese and American partners. "They have been exceptionally good about putting together international packages," says Peter Moss, programming vice-president at YTV, a Canadian youth specialty channel. Moss notes that while Cinar's shows are made in Canada, financing can be spread around the world. "As a broadcaster, you can't really carry the full weight of production."

The turning point came in 1980 when the company began producing the animated series *The Day of the Dragon* for YTV with Paramount. Still airing on the U.S. cable channel Nickelodeon, the show is based on the best-selling children's book about life in Baytown by the late American author Richard Scarry. The program gave Cinar credibility with other studios, Charest says, but *Radio Library* properties with enormous value remains a daily preoccupation. In fact, many of Cinar's successful shows are based on well-known books such as the *Paddling Bear* series or endearing characters such as *Lassie*. "They've always had great taste," says YTV's Moss. "They've always bought properties that were very appealing and worked very well in the market." *Lassie*, which has been a top-rated series by American Marc Brown, is a case in point. The animated series about an underdog, which airs on CTV and TV Ontario, nabbed Cinar a Daytime Emmy Award in May for best children's animated program. It is the No. 3 rated children's show for its target 6- to 11-year-olds in 1988, which also runs *Blondie House*, another animated Cinar show with Canadian airtime on CTV. Marc Brown, the director of children's programming at PBS in the United States, says of Cinar: "They recognize as a company the enormous impact that television has on young children and have consistently developed highly entertaining, responsible television."

Charest and Weinberg hope to parlay Cinar's TV success into the classroom. In the past year, Cinar has acquired two American companies that provide school supplies ranging from activity books to charts and maps. The move is an opportunity to expand its product line by using characters from its TV shows. Charest acknowledges that educators have historically been resistant to companies trying to elbow into the classroom. But she and Weinberg believe that Cinar, with its reputation for content and quality, is well positioned to succeed where others have failed.

With more than 380 half-hour programs to debut by the end of 1989, Cinar's production slate has never been larger. The company, which owns a 20-percent share of the Canadian Television cable channel, also makes an increasing number of live-action shows. Among them is *Sci-Squad*, which recently began production for the Discovery cable network and TV Ontario and features a group of teenagers who investigate scientific phenomena. Although the couple plans to keep expanding production, Charest maintains that the company's growth will come from complementary revenue streams. "We would like to think of Cinar as a children's company," says Charest. "And that's broad." For a company bent on growth, a wide playing field is an appealing prospect.

BRENDA BRUNSHELL in Montreal

BP GETS BIGGER

British Petroleum PLC announced the takeover of Amoco Corp., the No. 5 U.S. oil company, in a \$70-billion all-stock deal that ranks as the fifth-largest merger in corporate history. Despite estimated revenues of \$164 billion a year, BP Amoco PLC would still rank third in the world behind Royal Dutch/Shell and No. 2 Exxon Corp. While BP has no Canadian subsidiary, Calgary-based Amoco Canada Petroleum Ltd. has extensive drilling operations off the East Coast and in Alberta. The two companies declined to say whether many jobs will be lost or how the Canadian operations may be affected.

KON SEEKS PROTECTION

Domestic Bridge Corp., one of Canada's oldest companies, filed for bankruptcy protection in an effort to revive its flagging fortunes. The Lachine, Que.-based engineering and construction company, founded in 1979, must file a reorganization plan with creditors by Sept. 11. The move follows heavy losses in recent years.

HAMILTON PLANT CLOSES

Procter and Gamble Co. said it will shut production at its Hamilton plant, eliminating about 194 jobs, and leaving behind a warehouse with 66 to 70 workers. The Cincinnati-based home-products plant, which first produced soap at the site in 1975, plans to close at the beginning of September 1999.

MICROSOFT APPEALS

Microsoft Corp. said it will appeal a decision to allow the public to watch videotaped questioning of chairman Bill Gates in preparation for the U.S. government's antitrust case. At the same time, however, the Seattle-based software maker began talks with the U.S. justice department on how journalists and the public might attend the Gates deposition without creating a circus-like atmosphere. The suit could potentially severely limit the company's market influence to stifle competition.

CHANGES AT AIR CANADA

Air Canada announced the reorganization of its Western Canada operations in a bid to save \$50 million and boost its lagging stock price. Starting on Oct. 5, supporting routes will be moved to regional subsidiaries using smaller aircraft. Air Canada also scheduled direct service to New Orleans from Toronto.



Carver works in New York a bad week

currency and banking collapse in Russia as economic and political volatility there reached crisis proportions.

In Canada, market weakness has spread beyond the resource sector. "Write in a bear market, at least for the moment," said Sherry Cougher, chief economist at Neblin Burnham. The TSX's all-time record bank index has fallen roughly 34 per cent since the CIBC announced earlier this month that its shareholders' earnings would be lower than expected. Bank stocks have also been buffeted by interest rate jitters.

and the loan's lingering weakness.

The dollar, which has fallen sharply in recent weeks, was helped by hints from Japan that it would act to stabilize its currency and by behind-the-scenes intervention from the Bank of Canada. The loan rose 12 cents to close the week at 60.94 (U.S.).

But concerns that proposed measures to boost Japan's economy will be delayed kept world markets wobbling. In New York City, the Dow Jones industrial average dropped 173 points over the week and is now down 5.6 per cent from its high of 9,230 set on July 17.

The bear pays a call

In a roller-coaster ride that had investors gasping, the world's stock markets sagged their way to lower levels, prompting some observers to declare the beginning of a bear market. The Toronto Stock Exchange 300 composite index ended the week at 6350, down a fall 19.6 per cent from its April peak. Battered by Asia's worsening economic woes and the resulting drop in demand for commodities, the resource-heavy TSX has posted one of the poorest performances this year among exchanges in the industrialized world. Markets were also rocked by fears of a

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

The Bank of Canada lowered its estimate of economic growth in the April-June quarter of 1998 to 2.5 per cent from a range of 3 per cent to 3.5 per cent. But the bank argued that the economy is still strong despite the impact of Asia's financial crisis. Still, signs of a slowdown are evident. Housing starts in July declined to their lowest level in more than two years, falling 6.5 per cent from June to an annual rate of 123,100. June auto sales fell 3.1 per cent from the previous month to 123,113 units. In both cases, economists placed much of the

Normalized rate of new home building (thousands)



blame on recent strikes, which he helped drive down U.S. retail sales in July by 0.4 per cent from June. The post news supported the view of many economists that the U.S. Federal Reserve Board will hold the line on interest rates for the rest of the year, preventing further pressure.

—FD Bank

"Even excluding the now-settled strikes, it is clear the underlying trend in the economy is decelerating. Consumer confidence has suffered from the slide of the dollar, while export markets under intense pressure due to the devaluing Asian dollar," said Robert Burns.

Technology

The bits and bytes of voice

The Internet creates a new standard for telephone calls

The seemingly effortless changes spawned by the Internet are about to make their effects felt in yet another realm: the way a human voice is carried over telephone lines. IP telephony—a phrase only a geek could love—is already making its presence known as telephone companies and their competitors plan new services and attract up new services. The new technology, in trial in Canada, has already been used commercially in the United States and elsewhere, was one of the reasons telephone equipment maker Northern Telecom Ltd. of Bangalore, India, recently paid \$13.4 billion to buy Ray Networks of Santa Clara, Calif., which produces computer networking devices. And it may also help Robert Communications Inc., as well as other cable companies, to use their extensive networks of coaxial cable, now used to deliver television signals, to offer residential telephone service as well, says Ken Engelhart, Rogers vice president of regulatory law. The technology is quickly coming of age. Says Neil Andrus, senior vice president of strategy and new business development at Toronto-based AT&T Canada Long Distance Service Co., "Internet telephony is as inevitable as the coming of the millennium."

Behind the vaguely named, IP telephony is little more than the application of the same technology—known as Internet protocol—that directs traffic over the Internet and other computer networks to the telephone system. On the Internet, all data, whether e-mail messages or video clips, move in small chunks called packets. Each packet contains not only the information being sent but also the address of the computer it is being sent to. Each packet moves independently along the network, being shunted along the best available route. The computer at the receiving end puts the packets in the right order and reassembles the data back into their original form.

Traditional telephone service works very differently. When some-

one calls someone else, switches open a circuit between the two phones and the circuit stays open for the duration of the call. Even during a long silence, the circuit remains intact. Phone company engineers looking at all these open circuits and the silence and pauses between words think it would be more efficient if they could squeeze in a lot of other calls. Internet telephony allows them to do just that, except using telecommunications provider Inet America, president of Angara Telecommunications Group in Ajax, Ont.

The first use of Internet telephony came as people began to use their microphones-equipped computers and Internet connections to make long-distance phone calls, eroding toll charges. The quality was poor, and still is, as voice packets sometimes get lost in Internet traffic jams, but the price was right. The next step was to allow people without computers to use their phones to make Internet calls. Companies in the United States and in countries such as Japan and Singapore, for example, provided so-called gateway services where someone can call a number from an ordinary phone and get a connection to the Internet. A computer digitizes the voice, breaks it into packets and sends them to another gateway at the receiving end that switches the call back to the phone system. In Canada, says Angara, such services have been slow to take hold, partly because of government regulations that require companies connecting to the phone network to pay contribution charges to the phone companies. Ken Elliott, president of Victoria Systems Corp. in Kanata, Ont., which makes gateways and offers IP telephony equipment, says even when quality may not be as good as a normal phone line, much cheaper costs make such calls attractive. To a grandmother in Korea hearing from her granddaughter, even a somewhat muffled voice may be better than no call at all, Elliott says.

But the Internet itself will be the route of choice for the coming generation of calls using IP technology. These calls will be experts are used on private telephone company networks where routing and bandwidth can be controlled, providing high-quality calls.

The new technology also promises new services, and three services, says Elliott and AT&T's Andrus, will be its biggest selling points. The same call could combine voice and video, or allow people in different locations to work on the same computer at the same time, talking to each other as they do so. "You'll never want to go back to get a plain old voice call by itself," says Elliott.

Beyond the hype and hope, Angara says he is not yet convinced that IP telephony will deliver what it promises in terms of network efficiency. But even if he's right, he says he can still understand why the phone companies are going so much into it. "Nobody wants to be left out of that if it might be the next big thing." With all the fuss, it may well be.

WARREN CARGATA

PATHWAYS



IP telephony is more efficient. It breaks a conversation into small pieces, or packets.

Computers along the network select the most efficient route for each packet. Packets are

reassembled into the words of the conversation by a computer at the receiving end.

Haute Canuck

BY JOE CRIDLEY

As the car pulls up to the end of a dirt driveway clogged with chickens, geese and the odd piglet, here a young boy runs down from the ramshackle farmhouse, shouting away two curious crows who seem to make a habit of getting underfoot. "Go home for dinner!" calls five-year-old Hermann Stadlander. "Sorry, but we're not cooking today." Assured that the visitors are at Elginston Farm, about a two-hour drive north of Toronto, just to talk to his father, Hermann leads the way into the kitchen. There, he gets a head start—the pots, pans and dirty floor are telltale signs of the busier life at work. But his father's mood is better. Before heading off to other duties—maybe looking at the piglets out in the back 40, or playing with his dachshund, he has no apparent reason. "Neil Diamond?" Hermann points to Dad, who's out on the porch, alone in hand. "Seventy-five percent of the chef's job," explains Michael Stadlander, dropping the broom and shaking hands. "Is cleaning up."

Most are at Canada's most renowned chefs—dressed in khaki shorts, T-shirt and sturdy boots, he looks like an overgrown boy scout. Stadlander looms six feet, six inches tall, but he has that easy, self-effacing glow aligned by big men who want to be seen as men

standing. And though he is 41 years old, he looks to be on the pre-teen side of 30. So when he begins to talk—seriously, even prophetically—about the future of cuisine in Canada, it comes as something of a surprise. "I think," he says in his heavy German accent, "that we are on the verge of something great."

Right? In Canada? Land of pasture, prairie, potteries and well-digger? Stadlander, though, is talking about something else. And it's not the sort of trend that anyone can force, exactly—Statistics Canada does not keep numbers on how many people attend cooking schools, how many ethnic restaurants are bringing new flavors to Canadians, how much better food is this year than last. And sure, fast food is and forever will be a part of the North American diet (sign of maturity: a Chinese restaurant in St. Paul, Que., near Montreal, now advertises something called "Oriental goodness"). Yet the marks of a significant shift in the Canadian palate are clear: They lie in the myriad fine restaurants Canadians have to choose from; in the work of a handful of chefs who are making the best of local ingredients and local flavors; in a new interest among ordinary folk in food and wine. Canadian cooking is coming of age.

Some might say that is no big deal—that food is simply fuel for the body, or that the food and story is just another dollar and cents affair. But such pragmatism ignores the importance of food in the development of culture. For Michael Olson, chef at On the Twenty in



As chefs concoct distinctively northern masterpieces, and liners thrill to their creations, Canadian cuisine is on a roll



LOVERS OF FOOD: Stadlander and his son, Hermann, head to fields at their southern Ontario farm, a mecca for serious foodies; Olsson at La Vecchia in Toronto (top) are part of a growing passion for quality dining

Jordan, Ont., and a groundbreaker in what's now being called "this great cuisine," boasting local product and flavor is tantamount to a patriotic duty. "Something's finally clicked," he says. "People are saying, 'Wait a minute—I'm sick of thinking it's crap if it comes from Saskatchewan or Ontario, but it must be great if it comes from Florence or Italy or California.' Enough. We do great things here."

The rolling fields and wooded hills around Elginston Farm remind Stadlander of his German hometown—"It seems sort of European around here." The son of farmers near the northern town of Lunenburg, he began his apprenticeship in cooking at age 15, going on to work as a journeyman in Stuttgart, then to Lucerne, Switzerland, where he met Canadian chef Jason Kennedy (now owner and executive chef of J. K. WOOD in Toronto, in the Royal Ontario Museum). After coming to Canada with Kennedy in 1980, he made the rounds of some of the best-known eateries in Ontario and British Columbia. But during his climb through the ranks of Canadian chefs, he was plotting his escape—away from the packed dining rooms where, as he says, "you serve 90 people a night and work like an idiot." Five years ago, he and his Ontario-born wife, Nobuko, purchased 200 acres of land in Grey County, near the not-so-quiet bustling intersection of 10th Line Road and Silverado 30.

If anything, the move has brought Stadlander even more notice. Last November, Elginston was the subject of a glowing review in *The New York Times*, and readers from Gourmet magazine visited the restaurant earlier this month. (Not all of the attention has been favorable, however: Earlier this year, he made national news after a "sting" operation by undercover provincial police, who traced

Nobuko, 25, to serve them wine—even though Elginston has no liquor license and is strictly a bring-your-own-bottle establishment. The charges were dropped.) And demand for his steaks, \$235-per-cowhead meals outstrip supply. The Farm, which serves only three nights a week, is fully booked through December.

The palate-conscious foodies who make the pilgrimage to Elginston don't come for appearances. They come for the cooking and for the ingredients—many of which Stadlander and his family harvest themselves. Organically grown black currants come from a patch in back of the house, as do leeks, potatoes, beans and tomatoes. And for meat, he gets lamb from local farmers, beef from a local butcher, fish from nearby Georgian Bay suppliers. Stadlander's poultry, remarkable, is walked around the farmyard, and as far apart—well, those piglets sopping out back are as far a delicious end to the trip as is fresh as possible. "It's a good connection," he says, "to be where the food comes from."

That philosophy is central to the notion of regional cuisine—a movement that got its North American start in California in the 1970s and 1980s, when chefs like Alice Waters and Wolfgang Puck began emphasizing local ingredients and cooking styles. These days, restaurants all over the United States boast regional cuisines, often even putting the names of the local suppliers beside menu items (SQ magazine's local critic Alan Robinson likes to say that, in some trendy California restaurants, he feels like he needs a map just to read the menu).

In Quebec, regional cuisine is a long-standing culinary tradition, where inns and restaurants have for decades offered distinctly regional fare. For the past 10 years the nonprofit Corporation de la cuisine régionale au Québec has monitored and encouraged the development of

regional cuisine in the province's restaurant and food industry. It now has some 300 member establishments, each of which must meet stringent criteria. In English Canada, the development of regional cuisine has been slower, and much of the growing appreciation of local cuisines is coming from outside the province.

Among them is Michael Smith, co-owner and executive chef of the Inn At Bay Fortune on Prince Edward Island. Another New York City chef, Smith, 35, answered the call seven years ago when sous-chef David Wilner was looking for a chef. "I was working in Manhattan and looking to get out into the great big country," Smith says. Before his arrival, Bay Fortune was serving "nostalgic beef and boiled lobsters," he adds, but now specializes in "creative cuisine in a country inn setting." That means using his training. He attended the Culinary Institute of America in New York City as an undergraduate but either grows it in his garden or buys from more than 70 local suppliers. Says Smith—now a Canadian citizen—who will be launching a TV show called *The Inn Chef on Life Network* next month: "We have a responsibility to show off the produce of the island."

On the West Coast, Sooke Harbour House, a tranquil retreat overlooking the Strait of Juan de Fuca about 40 km northwest of Victoria, has been developing its own regional cuisine for the past 20 years. Regularly reviled by critics as among the best restaurants in the country, Sooke, which has 26 guest rooms in the adjoining inn, has become something of a sleeping grounds for the rich and famous—past guests include Robert de Niro, David Duchovny, Richard Gere and Cindy Crawford. "People come here for the Canadian experience," says Sooke's Philip, who owns the establishment with his wife, Fredrica. "Our menu changes every day, three times a day, depending on what is fresh, local, seasonal—regional."

Walking through Sooke's gardens—indeed by now half the staff—is an adviser in a white apron and a hat, a list of sights and smells. It is hard to count 400 varieties of herbs, greens, vegetables, edible flowers and fruits, from strawberries and asparagus to local fruit and sweet peas. Seaside—fish, octopus, crab, oysters, goose-neck barnacles and periwinkles—comes from local suppliers, as does all the meat, one waiter, an expert in fungi, is in charge of picking mushrooms. Sooke follows what Philip calls the "philosophy of traditional cooking—in most cultures people cook what is there. It isn't about wanting what comes off a jet plane."

At that there's something wrong with jet planes. In fact, without them, where would Canadian cooking be? "There's room for so much good food," says cooking instructor and TV show host Bonnie Stern. "Eating religiously and seasonally is very important, but we don't grow pineapples in Canada—and that doesn't mean you can't eat a pineapple." Stern, 30, remembers a time not so long ago—back in 1967, when the Canadian space race for granted simply was not available. "You had to go to Chinatown to get fresh ginger, and you couldn't get extra virgin olive oil anywhere," she says. Stern is a dyed-in-the-wool foodie—she started cooking as a kid,

Ultra-fresh ingredients and regional flavors yield delectable fare



GORDON RAMSAY, chef at *Orbit*, the Twenty in *Orbit*, Ont., is the heart of the Niagara wine region.

and now runs the vibrant food emporium on WTN cooking show (which airs daily), in her eight cookbooks (including *Simply Smart Cooking*, which has sold 175,000 copies since its 1994 publication), in her Toronto Star column, and at her cooking school, where she exposes some 2,000 students a year to all that is general and suggestive in food. She has seen food from close and far. In the 1960s, she says, good cooking meant French cuisine, then Italian hit big in the 1970s. And in the 1980s and early 1990s, there was a remarkable explosion of multinational food influences—Japanese, Chinese, Thai and Asian—followed by a new health-conscious push for low-fat cooking. Which has ensured, in short, all of them. With moderation, Stern says, anything goes. But underlying the plethora of cuisines are two long-term trends: the growing emphasis on local ingredients, and "the global food phenomenon, where food is coming in from all over the world to Vancouver, Montreal, Toronto—and actually everywhere. And the two are coming together. People are blending the global things with regional ingredients, and it's all very exciting."

Increasingly, the old food distinctions are starting to erode. And many of Canada's most creative chefs are wary of being categorized. "People always want to know if we do Pacific Northwest cuisine,"

says John Boral, 28-year-old chef and co-owner of the acclaimed *Star Anise* in downtown Vancouver. "I always say that I don't know what Pacific Northwest cuisine is." Boral's menu changes every three months, depending on what is in season and what is available. And although he says local food is crucial, such dishes as venison Wellington, he also buys ingredients from California, New Zealand, all over the world. "A lot of focus is being put on provenancing what something is," says Boral. "The truth is that many top chefs in Canada are young, and what might be considered a new type of cuisine is just young people who are artists, playing with food."

Against that creativity, however, are the exigencies of the marketplace and the need for chefs to adapt to local tastes and expectations. Montreal-born Dale Nichols, 41-year-old executive chef at *Canadim Hotel* in Toronto, had to take the job at *Hotel Hamilton* in 1995. Conversion to tourists and to what he says are the more traditional tastes of Hamilton diners, Nichols acknowledges being more conservative in his approach to cooking. "Guests don't want to read on the menu about seafood raised with Asian spices. They want basically East Coast food."

There are now more than 11,000 restaurants in Canada—an increase of 36 per cent in the past decade—and they offer customers a profusion of choice, from the ethnic eateries that thrive in the major cities (and increasingly in suburbs and small towns) to the hottest of haute cuisine. There are a lot of reasons for that bloom of diversity: a rich, early recurring economy; better food distribution; immigration. But Stern suggests it is also a response to demand from Canadian consumers, whose tastes have become increasingly sophisticated and varied. "People want choice—expensive, casual, Chinese, Italian, French."

Because a restaurant industry in Canada has tough business. After booming in the 1980s, the industry was hit hard by recession in the early 1990s. Between 1989 and 1991, total food-service sales dropped to \$85 billion from \$21.6 billion. Now, however, a modest recovery is at the works. Over all food-service sales have grown by over 50 per cent since 1994, reaching \$22.3 billion in 1997. For this year, the Canadian Restaurant and Foodservice Association is predicting an increase of 4.2 per cent in liquor-licensed restaurant revenues. A helping factor: the non-banished Canadian dollar, which has prompted American tourists to flock to Canada—and to its restaurants.

One sign of the return to good, if not great, times in the restaurant industry recently appeared amid the skyscrapers and busy sidewalks of Toronto's financial district. For more than 50 years, Watson's has been the city's power set, fre-

quented by the likes of former *Andy Serkis* and one-time prime minister John Turner (who had a salad named after him). But in the early 1990s, the by now venerable and respected institution—often criticized for its stodgy service—had fallen on hard times. Finally, during 1994, that last December, Watson's reopened under a new owner—and it is in a far different place. Gone are the red leather banquettes and the dim, cigar-smoke-fogged lights, replaced by plush fabric soft seating, mahogany woodwork. And the dining room is virtually draped with contemporary art, the post-war is clearly the focus, not the clientele. The menu—which used to rely on huge hunks of beef—is a lush blend of traditional and creative French cuisine, from Dover sole marinated in saffron-breadcrumbs with honey and lavender. The price? Well, with rates ranging from \$45 and a wine list that includes rare vintages priced at \$2,300, it is stratospheric. But, as Watson's maître d' Jacob Wiseman says, "once in a while people want something special."

It is of course crazy to stay at home. But even there, more and more Canadians are taking the taste of eating and entertaining seriously, and very seriously. And many are turning to cooking schools. In Winnipeg, Marie Curran's *The Cooking Studio* offers small classes with a direct, hands-on approach. Trained in Paris, Curran, 38, says that she tries to instill in her students an appreciation not only of technique, but of local ingredients. "I like to design regional dishes based on fresh, home-grown products."

In St. John's, Richard and Marilee Appleby went far afield to study their budding culinary aspirations. The Vancouver couple spent nine days at Villa Delfia, a cooking school-country inn in Tuscany owned and operated by T.C. restaurateur Umberto Minghi. Besides frequenting restaurants of the Italian Delta, some regions, they also learned how to make such traditional fare as polenta, fasciata, risotto—all based on local produce. Richard, 47, and wife-patner at the Vancouver Film School, says that he and Marilee, 45, have long been interested in cooking, but that their Tuscan adventure changed the way they look at food. "What we learned was irrevocably in the foods we can buy in Vancouver," he adds. "Fresh produce, herbs and spices—it isn't complicated. These are foods the peasants ate hundreds of years ago and they taste wonderful."

It's hard to tell amid the four-hour traffic of the Queen Elizabeth Way between Toronto and Niagara Falls, but the surrounding area is a little Tuscany or Napa Valley as the makings—at least if people like Olsen, Len Pennacchietti and Allan Schmidt have their way. A Saskatchewan native who cooked at restaurants in Toronto



EXPLORING THE PLEASURES OF THE PALATE: Tori Stern (above) and Winnipeg's Curran (middle) teach amateur chefs the art of food preparation; Kinsinger (below) and Philip (bottom) gather herbs outside his restaurant.



and Ottawa, Olson, 34, remembers his first impressions of the area when Pennacchi, owner of Case Spring Cellars winery in the town of Merida, invited him down to open a new restaurant. On the Tuesday, six years ago. "At the time, my experience at the table was like that of most people—no idea by 45 p.m. as to what was going on. I was a little bit of a fool," he says. "But when I got it all together, it was all very new and intriguing. I thought, 'This is like the California of Ontario, and it's untapped!'"

Away from the highway, Nagens is a land of rich vegetable and fruit fields, and the local pond of the burgeoning Ontario wine industry. These days, the region's wineries get some 300,000 visitors a year. As for the Tuesday, Olson came in those tourist dollars with his first course eaten from his local network of suppliers. He called one of the most important, assembled from produce he bought that morning. "The food to Work Appetizer Pitter" or, as it's imported, bears the stamp of the area. "We coined the term 'Nagenses,'" he says. "I'll bring in mussels from Prince Edward Island, I might steam them in beer from Nagens Falls, or finish them with local and fennel that are grown around the corner."

The push to develop regional cuisine in Nagens is ambitious—and exciting. At Vineyard Estates Winery, the three-year-old restaurant opens into a stunning view of the vineyards below. Chef Mark Piccone, who studied in the wine regions of France and Italy, cooks up wonderful meals using 95 per cent local ingredients, and the suppliers' names are proudly listed on the menu: Rose Farm Beef Tenderloin, Diamond's Missouri Turkey, and something called Soiled Reputation Mustard Greens.

But the food is part of a bigger picture, says Vineyard Estates general manager and wine maker Allen Schmidt. Within the next two years, Vineyard Estates is planning to open an international culinary institute on its property, with lodging for up to 700 students, visiting chefs and agriculturalists who want to see Nagens wine and food country say noble wine production in the world—Berlucchi, Tuscany or Napa—him to have three things: great growing abilities, great wine-making abilities and the infrastructure for people to produce in those first two," explains Schmidt. The restaurant and culinary institute, he adds, "are that third link, a way for the consumer to see what it's all about and be a part of it."

Nobody would suggest that "Canadian" just means with French and Italian as one of the world's great cuisines. But people like Michael Stoddard are certainly optimistic. And if the demand for exotic at Empress Farm is any indication, then Canadians are starting to share his enthusiasm. In fact, for the Stoddards, it's almost gotten out of hand. The phrase, always graciously answered by Mollie (or her recorded voice), seems never to stop ringing. Stoddard talks about how the time he came to sit down on his business. Next year, he says, Empress is going to serve only 12 people a night instead of 16. And he plans on taking much of next summer off to tour the country, coast to coast, in a camper van, stopping in at restaurants, farms, clubs and inns—along with a companion. "I'm going to make a movie," he says. About who? "About my life, of course—and about food." And he already knows how the film is going to end: "With a big, big party." Stoddard says, serving his adopted land. "Right here."

Good luck getting a seat.

With *PUTN ATTORNEY* in Toronto, JANE McDONALD
in Winnipeg, BRENDAN BRANSFELL in Montreal
and STEVEN McNEIL in Halifax

TV WITH TASTE

Serious Wendy Blackwood just can't get enough. After a full day of cooking, pursuing recipes and planning menus, the busy Toronto chef often winds up by curling up in front of the TV and tuning in to her favorite food shows. There is the witty expertise of Ken Kock and Mary Jo Easton, the cozy co-hosts of Canada's most popular cooking program (500,000-plus viewers per week), *What's for Dinner?* Then there's the erudite commentary of David Rougier and the drool antics of Britain's unlikely gift to haute cuisine, the *Two Fat Ladies*, Jennifer Paterson and Gillian Dickson Wright. The public's growing appetite for food TV has made all of these bona fide celebrities. "These shows are wonderful," says Blackwood, a co-writer for *Lobster: new island cooking schools*. "They're doing a tremendous amount to increase people's interest in food and wine."

And the appeal goes far beyond chefs. About 45 per cent of Canadian families with cable TV—accounting for roughly four million viewers—subscribe to the U.S. Food Network. Its popularity has persuaded Toronto-based Atlantic Broadcasting Inc., which holds the Canadian licence for the Food Network, to propose a Canadian food channel (it has yet to secure approval from federal broadcast regulators). In the meantime, Atlantic is introducing seven new cooking shows on its Life Network this fall. Hip to the trend, the CBC will unveil its own early in October. The *Great Canadian Food Show*, while TSN will launch a French version, *Table d'Hôte*. "It's an exploration of Canada through what we eat," says the Ottawa-based producer of both shows, Chris Knight. "We have fabulous food here, and the show celebrates that."

SMALL-SCREEN SAVORIES
David Rougier and the Food Network is among the tube's newcomers of cooking.



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Grape White North

Canada is now
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BY JOE CHIDLEY

The man at Paxton Grapes is "global tastes, local touches." And the wines offered by the recently Winapeery estate reflect the robust mix of cultures and cuisines that have helped define the city's history. Sure, there's the Marquette line of lamb in a Saskatchewan berry demi-glacé—but it's spiced with ginger. Then there's the red-wine with oak, citrus, vanilla and coconut milk, or the Atlantic salmon with cucumber, chili and cranberry sauce. But of the man at Paxton is untraditional: no wine is the wine—perhaps even more so. Among the 40-plus wines that owner Scott McTaggart has assembled in his cellar over the past two years, there are no high-end Bordeaux, no robust Austerlitz. All are Canadian, from B.C. pinot noirs to Ontario redwines. And the prices, declares McTaggart, low. "Three years ago, you couldn't have gotten away with a fine-dining establishment that offered only Canadian wines. But people are beginning to understand that our wines are some of the best in the world."

For decades, "fine" and "Canadian" were two adjectives wine connoisseurs rarely, if ever, used in the same breath. But Canadian wines have come into their own—and together they demand. Since debuting first wines to producing quality wines over the past decade, wineries in Ontario and British Columbia, the only two provinces with important viticultural industries, have

grown exponentially in revenue and in number. And although drinkers can still get the cheap stuff, the real boom is in quality wines produced according to the Vintners Quality Alliance (VQA), a system akin to the French AOC or German QDP. "It's been a really dramatic growth," says Peter Gumbel, executive director of VQA Canada. "Canadiana is moving in the direction of not only drinking Canadian wines, but finer Canadian wines."

The proof is in the numbers. Except for 1994-1995, after a harsh winter damaged crops, sales of Ontario VQA wines have risen by 40 per cent a year since 1988, hitting nearly \$65 million in 1996-1997—or 20 per cent of wine sales in the province. In British Columbia, VQA wine revenues rose 23 per cent between 1994-1995 and 1995-1996, to nearly \$40 million, and now account for 46 per cent of all sales. Moreover, Ontario's prime viticultural region, and just 35 wineries in 1988, now there are 56. Between 1995 and 1997, the number of B.C. wineries nearly doubled, with 21 new businesses starting up.

It was not always such a rosy picture, of course. The commercial wine industry in Canada dates back to the 1800s, when a vinery called Van Vliet started operation on Peter Island in Lake Erie (and one of Ontario's three viticultural regions). For the next 129 years, Canadian wines were the subject of several congressional studies, many of which, which will produce about 80 per cent of all viticultural grapes grown in Canada, relied on barely domestic wineries that could withstand harsh winters but



Superior now:
Henry of Paxton's
Speck (top left),
Inniskillin's Zarble
(above), Fusion
and McTaggart
(right) are all part
of the boom in
Canadian wines

resulted in chivalry races and soda-pop-like wines—the Italy Ducks and Marcy Blues as beloved of vintage purveyors in the '70s. And although a small group of Niagara region winemakers—among them Paul Bosc of Chateau des Chenes and Karl Kaiser and Don Zlotnik of Inniskillin—attempted to popularize better product, they encountered widespread skepticism. "Our biggest problem was credibility," says Zlotnik, 49, who planted Inniskillin's first vines back in 1974. "The industry response was, basically, 'You can't have an industry.' There had to be a whole cultural shift."

In Ontario, that shift did not come until the 1980s, when a host of factors conspired to give quality wine-making a look in the past. One was the expanding Free Trade Agreement, which put growers of cheap Canadian grapes at a distinct disadvantage to their American counterparts who—thanks to a warmer climate—could produce far more fruit for more cheaply. Another was the growing recognition that the southern Ontario climate was in important respects similar to the Loire, Burgundy and Champagne in France, Italy's Tuscany and the Rhine in Germany—areas that produce the world's greatest wines.

Those regions lie on roughly the same northern latitude as Niagara and southern British Columbia. "We realized we couldn't compete on the bottom end of the market," says Gumbel, 45, formerly plant manager at Hibernia Estates Winery. "But for quality wines, our climate is beautifully suited." In the late 1980s, a new

And at the Selections Monthlies held in Montreal, Canadian wineries—in a field of more than 1,700 entrants from 35 countries—came away with 15 medals, including a gold for B.C. winery Sonoma Ridge's 1993 cabernet sauvignon, the first Canadian red to win gold at that event.

What's remarkable about the Canadian industry is how far it has come in such a short time. In the early days, Paul Speck and his family learned about winemaking the hard way. "We made a lot of mistakes, but it's the only way to it," says Speck, 31, now president of the Henry of Paxton Family Estate winery, which he founded along with brother Matthew and Daniel in 1987. With its headquarters in a 19th-century inn back by their ancestor, Henry Smith, the Speck's winery now has 130 acres under vine. It produces a range of wines typical of the Niagara region: cool, only chardonnay, acidic and complex riesling, planetary gamay noir, as well as a hybrid black race that's a combination of wine and grape. "It's the only way to it," says Speck, "that we could make good wine here."

While Niagara's macroclimate is moderated by Lake Ontario and the Niagara Escarpment, the Okanagan Valley—the largest B.C. wine region, with 95 per cent of the province's wineries—has a climate of extremes: harsh winters and blustery summers, especially at its south end. But that hasn't hindered the cultivation of these grapes; in fact, the climate is ideal for cabernet sauvignon and merlot. And, if anything, the transition to quality wines has occurred more rapidly in British Columbia than in Ontario.

In 1989, under a provocative wine-pull scheme about two-thirds of non-vintage grapes were pulled up in the Okanagan. But John Sims, a New Zealander who immigrated in 1992 to become vice manager at Mission Hill Winery near Kelowna, remembers when huge swaths of the valley's vineyard area was covered over with alfalfa. "Now, they've gone back to planting classic varieties, and some of the wineries are producing superb quality wines," says Sims, 47. "And that change has been in the last three or four years." At the same time, a handful of other international wine makers have followed the New Zealander to British Columbia to ply their trade, raising the quality bar for the province's wines.

The Canadian industry still has a long way to go. For one thing, Canadians often do not drink very much wine by international standards—about 16 litres a year, compared with 30 litres elsewhere. That's one consequence of about a sixth of what the French and Italians drink, and only about half as much as Americans. "We need to take more appreciation of the crystal itself," says Allen Schmidt, general manager and wine marketer at Vineland Estates Winery in Niagara, "and put our consumers' minds."

By most standards, that message is getting across—and Canadian wines are even beginning to attract academic recognition. Last winter, Brock University in St. Catharines, situated on the heart of the Niagara wine region, set up the Cool Climate Oenology and Viticulture Institute, one of only four such research facilities in the world. With 20 students annually, the institute offers Bachelor's honors degrees in oenology and viticulture—for which opportunities have traditionally relied on foreign-born talent. "Right now, if you want to hire a wine maker, you often have to recruit abroad," says Brock president David Adamson. "That's just unacceptable, for all the right Canadian reasons." Already, the institute has attracted a dozen wine and grape researchers from all over the world. And for Adamson, who arrived at Brock last year from the University of Saskatchewan, there's a bigger benefit. "I jokingly say that I've traded grapes and beer for grapes and wine," he says. "And actually, it hasn't been a bad trade." Another satisfied customer

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People

Edited by
TANYA DAVIES

A Cosmo girl gets Glamour-ous

In the early 1980s, when Toronto native Bonnie Horowitz, now Fuller, was editor of the Canadian fashion magazine *Flare*, she let slip her ultimate career ambition to friends. One recalls her saying: "Someday, I will be editor of *Vogue*—the publication widely considered the world's most prestigious women's fashion magazine." Last week, 45-year-old Fuller took one step closer to that goal by jumping from *Cosmopolitan*—owned by Hearst Magazines—to its archrival, *Glamour*—which is owned by Conde Nast Publications, the company that also owns *Vogue*.

Fuller's move startled many people, since it came only 18 months after she succeeded Helen Gurley Brown as *Cosmo's* editor-in-chief. Moreover, her brief tenure was an obvious success: Under her, ad pages grew by 13 per cent, while newsstand sales increased 16 per cent, contributing to a total circulation of 2.7 million. *Glamour* is smaller, with a total circulation of 2.3 million. Both magazines are targeted at the same audience: upscale women between the ages of 18 and 35. But industry insiders suggest Fuller's move is less baffling than it might first seem. It was one of the most important gauges of popularity, last year—for the first time ever—*Glamour* said more adverting pages than *Cosmopolitan*. That year, the two magazines are neck and neck. And some friends suggest that other previously top-selling domestic and successful makeovers of *Flare*, *YM* and *Marie Claire* magazines,



Fuller is in all part of the Canadian's design to be editor of *Vogue*?

Fuller was not allowed as free a rein as she wanted at *Cosmo*. When she first took that job, Fuller—who with her husband, Michael Fuller, an architect, has three children—said she fit the magazine's definition of a *Cosmo* girl as "somebody who wants to have it all." That still appears to be true—but the question now is whether, as Fuller, "she" means nothing less than *Vogue*.

Night owl with the gift of gab

AS IMPRESSIVE AS Murray McLachlan's curriculum vitae is, it continues to get better. The Toronto-based filmmaker has 18 albums and 11 Sony Awards to his credit, hosted a CBC Radio show for five years, and is a member of the Order of Canada. Now, he can add television show host to his list of accomplishments. Last week saw his debut as the host of *Groupie*, a late-night talk show on Prime TV Network that is reminiscent of the U.S. program *Phil Donahue* hosted with Bob Baker. "I'm sure there will be some people shocked to see a singer hosting a show on current topics," says McLachlan. "I guess they think a folk singer can't make a complete sentence."

Groupie is a long way from the singer's show-business roots in Toronto coffee houses in the 1960s. McLachlan was a guest on



McLachlan: the singer is now a talk-show host with a mission to surprise

Groupie a few years before the producers approached him in January about replacing Hart Poonerantz as the host. "I asked them what I would get to do, because I hadn't planned on being a talking head," says the Scottish-born McLachlan, 30, who with his wife, Dennis Dore, 42, was a co-president of programming for MuchMusic, has a daughter and a son. "But once they explained it, I thought it would be interesting to branch out." Each night, McLachlan is responsible for leading four Canadians from diverse backgrounds in a lively discussion of a contemporary event or issue.

"One of our unwritten rules is that guests with specific expertise will not be on a show with that as the topic," says McLachlan. "If Conrad Black came on the show, I would like to discuss religion or even chivalry with him—anything but business." About who likes to surprise:



LEARN EXCHANGE:

Students Terence Au (left), Pasa Wong and Ada Lai play market mogul for the day at the Toronto Stock Exchange's new learning centre. Punctuated with ticker tapes, interactive games and videotape news about the world's financial markets, the interactive playground is designed for students, teachers and parents to learn something about the art of investing. The staff includes former stock traders from the TSE, prominent business speakers appear twice a week to explain the intricacies of the markets and special seminars are planned for high-school teachers and their students.

Campus realignment

York University is preparing to affiliate with the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College, which would make it the first major university in North America to align itself formally with the art of spinal manipulation. If the deal goes through, the CMCC will construct a brand-new building with four new lecture halls, a human anatomy lab and a bio-mechanics facility on the York campus on Toronto's northern border—and share the instruction of about 600 students. But the proposal is not sitting well with those most likely to teach the program's theoretical courses—York's science professors. The faculty of pure and applied science and the department of physics and astronomy have both passed motions rejecting an affiliation. "Chiropractic does have some metaphysical, non-scientific overtones still embedded in it," says physics and astronomy professor Michael De Robertis. "Any scientists would be very, very uneasy with some of the attitudes they hold." One bone of contention is the chiropractic view that immobility for many common diseases is a matter of choice, not a public necessity. But Jesse Moss, president of the 35-year-old CMCC, says those fears are not widespread. The CMCC, which will keep its own campus near York to teach the clinical aspects of the four-year joint degree, wants to affiliate with a university to increase its prospects for public funding and research grants. York wants the deal to give it a larger presence in the field of health sciences. Its centre for health sciences lives the deal. The University senate voted overwhelmingly in support in principle. And administration officials say opposition is linked to a small contingent. Says Bruce Setton, associate vice-president for research, who is developing the proposal: "I mean they don't come right out and say 'no' but basically they say, 'You guys are witch doctors.'"



UNIVERSITY ROUNDUP

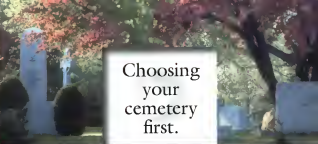
STUDIOUS SEX. Beginning this fall, students at Montreal's Concordia University will be able to grapple with their hormonal cravings for academic credit. The faculties of arts, science and fine arts have combined to produce an interdisciplinary minor in sexuality. "It is pretty explanatory at this point," says program director Tony Bligh. The 27-credit minor will be satisfied by Concordia's new collection—2,500 titles—of gay and lesbian literature and may be part of a wave of sexual diversity studies, as they are called, gaining an academic behind. University of Toronto is also launching a sexual diversity studies program to examine the gay, straight and bisexual scene.

BUDDHISM IN MONTREAL. A \$1-million gift from a Japanese religious foundation is endowing a new leadership in Buddhist studies at McGill University. It is one of four new ethnic or religious positions at the venerable Montreal institution in recent months based on direct donations. The department of Jewish studies has been established by two Montreal families contributing \$1 million each, a chair in Chinese cultural studies has been endowed and Greece has given the university \$400,000 to complete a

chair in Greek-Canadian studies. Also, the gifts do not put a dent in McGill's financial picture. To make ends meet it wants to cut \$200,000 from its Faculty Club grant, raise classrooms after dinner and request student associations to pay the heating costs of their buildings.

NOVEL STUDIES. Signs that societal social change is here to stay: Three community colleges and two universities—ranging from Edmonton to St. John's, Nfld.—have joined forces to offer a national program on fundraising for charities. Also, the faculty of law at Queen's University has put together the country's first course in casino and gambling law.

FUNDING FIGURES. After nearly a decade of extensive cuts, five provinces are increasing the basic operating grants to their universities this year while four others continue to scale back and one, Ontario, remains frozen for at least one more year. On the upside, Saskatchewan has made the largest increase, five per cent, followed by Nova Scotia, Manitoba, British Columbia and Alberta, in descending order. Quebec's grant fell the most, 4.5 per cent, followed by Newfoundland, P.E.I. and New Brunswick. Government increases in the West are a sign to some that Ontario's move into market-based tuition fees may not be moving westward.



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TOP-FLITE

Health

The quest for blood

Blood substitutes may ease chronic shortages

According to medical lore, the ancient Incas were the first to attempt blood transfusions. And over the centuries doctors around the world have pumped everything from beer to urine into hemorrhaging patients. Now, surgeons across Canada are pushing back the frontiers of transfusion science: each year with its major blood substitute, Hemosol, which duplicates blood's life-saving, oxygen-carrying capacity, was tested on patients undergoing hip and knee replacement surgery. This week, a patient about to undergo heart surgery is scheduled to use Hemosol, the first of a group of heart patients in the first phase of the trial. The attraction is obvious, says Dr. Sheldon Tebe, a kidney specialist at Toronto's Sunnybrook Health Science Centre who would like to use Hemosol for kidney dialysis. "Our patients won't have to use as much donated blood."

With Canadians wary of contaminated blood and donations plummeting from 1.37 million units in 1990 to 880,000 last year, blood replacements are expected to be widely used. Indeed, industry forecasters predict a \$7.6-billion North American market within a few years. The substitute lasts about 36 hours in humans—long enough for the body to begin reproducing its own blood. Products like Hemosol, which is manufactured by Toronto-based Hemosol Inc., will not only help keep blood supplies up—particularly in emergency rooms—they will also enable paramedics to deliver transfusions in the field more easily because the substitute blood is compatible with every blood type. Even more important for the first time patients will be transfused with a substance that is absolutely free of potentially deadly viruses. Says Michael Green, an associate professor of surgery at Dalhousie University who used Hemosol during operations in Haiti: "Most people still don't like the risk as associated with a normal blood transfusion."



Kennedy with Hemosol: racing towards a \$7.6-billion market

Blood is not 100 per cent safe. Nothing is." Two other leading U.S. firms, Biofield Laboratories Inc. of Evansville, Ill., and Biopure Corp. of Boston, are also trying to beat Hemosol to market with stock blood. Initial studies, published this month in the *Journal of the American College of Surgeons*, are encouraging. So much so that the U.S. Food and Drug Authority last week called for much wider tests, prompting company executives to predict they could be approved for general use within the next two years. Dr. John Marshall, director of research at Toronto Hospital's intensive-care unit, and the impact of artificial blood could be dramatic: "If we had a fluid that would carry

oxygen," said Marshall, "that would be a very significant step forward."

Getting to market, however, is no sure thing. On June 2, after spending more than \$450 million on research, Baxter Healthcare Corp. of Deerfield, Ill., which also attempted to create a hemoglobin-based blood, cancelled its program after complications arose in some severely ill patients. Only one other artificial oxygen carrier, Fluosol, a chemical developed by Green Cross Corp. in Japan in the 1970s, has been available. But it was withdrawn in 1994 for lack of use.

The drive to find an alternative to blood picked up speed following the contamination of the blood supply with the virus that causes AIDS. According to Hemosol president John Kennedy, the firm contacted two paths last winter that found that 50 per cent of respondents would rather have a substitute than donated blood and were willing to pay extra for it. Adds Kennedy: "The big gain is that we will be able to conserve donated blood for high volume situations."

The mock blood is made from hemoglobin extracted from red blood cells in donated blood that has passed its 42-day shelf life. The cell membranes are opened up and the hemoglobin is extracted and run through microscopic filters to remove viruses. The blood is then reconstituted, making it to carry oxygen. In the future, blood replacements may become even more sophisticated. At McGill University in Montreal, biomedical engineer Thomas Chien is attempting to restore some of the enzymes that are stripped from the cells in the manufacturing process, making the substitutes more useful.

Red Cross officials, meanwhile, are not yet sure what impact artificial blood will have on the need for donations. Last year, 40,000 units of donated blood caplets on the shelf could be used to make new blood products. But if the demand for virus-free substitute blood increases dramatically, companies producing artificial supplies might end up in competition with the Red Cross. "At this point, I think artificial blood will fill a well-defined niche," says Graham Sher, a medical director with the Red Cross in Toronto. "But I don't see the demand for donated blood decreasing." Whatever happens, the ancient science that began with the Incas is about to change dramatically.

TOM FENNEL

Hot moves in honor of a maverick

FOSSIE: A CELEBRATION IN SONG AND DANCE
Directed by Richard Hobbly Jr.

By all accounts, Bob Fosse was a tormented man. He was a dyslexic, a homosexual, he abused drugs, he both hated show business and loved it. And by the time the famous choreographer died of a heart attack in 1987 at age 68, he had left the unique imprint of his successes and sins on more than a score of musicals and films. Millions of people who do not, perhaps, know his name are familiar with the Fosse made of dancing, with its cocked hip lineages, its slight of hand with dresses and bustles, its bizarre contractions from exaltation to crushed, dancing grandfuries. He used to say he developed that style out of his own limitations as a dancer. To hide his premature baldness he developed a way with hats. To disguise his lack of flexibility, he invented a more economical, economic style.

Not only did he dance that way himself, but he also choreographed those unique moves on the hundreds of dancers who worked for him in stage shows such as *Damn Yankees* (2000) and *Chicago* (1979). The moves he directed include a couple that feature no dancing at all in *Lenny* (2004) and *Star 80* (2000). But his greatest fame flows from the films he both directed and choreographed, most notably the brilliant *Cabaret* (1971), in which a Berlin nightclub in the 1930s introduces the audience to the decadence of the Second World War, and the lyrical *All That Jazz* (1979), in which Fosse audaciously immortalized his own life.

Now he has a new musical in *Fosse: A Celebration* at Segr and Dancer. Last week, the event received record-breaking premiere in Toronto, and hours before its production, event was, chairman Garth Dryden, wanted to step down because of alleged accounting irregularities. Ultimately it stayed at the American market—this fall *Fosse* travels to Boston and Los Angeles and then to New York City—the show reconstructs some of the best work from the choreographer's 25-year career. It features a cast of 30 performers (two of them Canadian) who sing almost as impressively as they dance.

And it hard sells the whole package with a glacial Fosse-hat that might have adorned



some captivating includes, it impresses more than it moves, nevertheless more than it seduces. Some of the problem is in the staging. To create a seamless web of dance and song, choreographer Ann Renaldi, Fosse's lover and costar for 30 years, has created transition pieces between some of the most offerings. Other dances simply flow into each other without warning. The effect is a sense of entertainment—a barrage of sensation that grows exhausting long before the show ends.

But the deeper problem may lie with Fosse's work ethic. He created his choreography to punctuate the narrative of films and musicals. There it seemed fresh, inventive, joyously welcome. But when Fosse's dance numbers must carry the entire burden of a 2½-hour show, a certain sameness creeps in. Fosse was inventive, but not infinitely so. Overexposure can make his dance vocabulary—all that crutching, lat work and squinted encephaly—seem surprisingly repetitive. And from there are the limitations of the tradition he worked in. Although he transformed the Broadway style with his own vision, he kept much of its repetition and wistful dancing. The effect, over time, can be oppressive.

Fosse is at its best when the film dancing coincides with classic melodies. Fosse often had to choreograph to second-rate scores that sound no more interesting than cocktail pop. But when he got to work with great songs such as *My Blue Heaven*—magically sung in *Fosse* by the wonderful Valerie Perrier—his dancers seem to take wing. Another of the show's highlights is accompanied by Jerry Jeff Walker's plaintive *Mr. Boatsman*. In the foreground, an old hobo (Serge Truffaut) scribbles and shifts, then receding the dancer he once was. In the background, in a floating spotlight, a beautiful dancer (the amazingly lithe and charismatic Deshaun Buchanan) leaps and twirls with the ease of a gazelle.

Fosse's singular, dangerous sense of humor also provides welcome moments. In the number *Take 69 With Us*, the dancers make up the line by stripping off their arctic uniforms and—clad only in the leotards of black leotards and bras—engage in a mock orgy that quickly turns bawdy, reflecting Fosse's ambiguous attitude to sex.

The piece is darkly intoxicating, and the remarkably lithe the slow clear of the reveal that weighs down so much of it. With Fosse, a little goes a long way. A lot, also, is too much.

JOHN REMESSE



O'Callaghan last year in Washington: a leading IRA figure and spy for the Irish police

Double jeopardy

THE INFORMER

By Sean O'Callaghan
(Bantam, \$24.95, 332 pp.)

In 1974, when Sean O'Callaghan was just 39 years old, he killed a man, shooting him a job in Northern Ireland. It was a deliberate act of cold-blooded murder carefully planned, remorselessly executed. For despite his youth at the time, O'Callaghan was already an accomplished Irish Republican Army veteran, skilled in the black art of clandestine warfare. And his victim, Peter Phelan, was a police officer, a detective inspector with the Royal Ulster Constabulary's Special Branch, the force's intelligence unit. But it was not long after pumping chest shots from his shoulder that 357 Magazine told Phelan's body that the young O'Callaghan first began to harbor suspicions about his calling. "It was a narrow," he writes, "like clear thought flushed through my mind, the memory of which has never left me: 'You're going to have to pay for this one day'."

The *Informer* is O'Callaghan's account of the police Phelan's murder exacted. The tell was heavy, equally as more ominous even than the 50-year prison sentence O'Callaghan would eventually receive for all of the crimes—Phelan's killing and one other murder, plus 44 other offences—be committed while serving in the IRA. The tiny seed of doubt planted in the wake of Phelan's death germinated inside O'Callaghan's head until a fully sprouted,

erecting as a deep and shuddering hatred for the IRA and its violent ways. Determined to atone for the sins he had perpetrated in the IRA's name, in 1979—when he was 25—O'Callaghan chose to embark on an extremely perilous course. For 14 dangerous years he led a lonely double life. To his fellow conspirators, he was a figure of ever-increasing prominence within the IRA, rising to head the organization's southern command, occupying a place on the general headquarters staff and serving as a member of the national executive of Sinn Féin, the IRA's political arm. At the same time, however, O'Callaghan was also a spy, a highly placed informant for the Garda Síochána, the Republic of Ireland's police force.

From his perch at the very center of the IRA's shadowy world, O'Callaghan led his Garda handlers with a constant stream of near-perfect intelligence. His information subverted countless IRA operations, prompted the arrests of dozens of IRA operatives and opened a window on the IRA's structure and key personalities. He exposed the IRA's training links with Spain's Basque separatist network and the organization's access to Libyan and Syrian arms suppliers. But perhaps his major achievement was the personal side he played in working what, if it had succeeded, would have surely been the IRA's most spectacular act of terrorism.

It was to have occurred on July 20, 1983, when Prince Charles and his wife, Diana, Princess of Wales, were scheduled to attend

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BOOKS

A fund-raising gala at the Dominion Theatre in London's Tottenham Court Road. "My intention was to murder the royal couple," O'Callaghan recalls in his book. "I was to achieve this by planting a bomb in a public toilet directly behind the royal box—but the wall fell off possible—just as was later done at the successful bombing of the Conservative party conference at Hagthorpe the following year."

O'Callaghan's description of the demolition is strikingly obvious—murder in which he managed to fool the IRA's assassin, nation plot and will maintain his cover in London. As intriguing are his anecdotes about some of the Irish political personalities who have become familiar figures of life in the daily news. He relates, to cite only one of many examples, a conversation he had in 1983 with Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams over how best to deal with the electoral campaign posed by John Hume's Social Democratic and Labour Party, the moderate pro-local party that still supports Sinn Féin among Northern Ireland's Catholic voters. According to O'Callaghan, Adams asked during their chat: "What about killing Hume?"

It is not because of such incendiary material that *The Informer* earned a reputation when it was first published in the spring in London. O'Callaghan's book appeared just as the heated negotiations to reach a peace agreement in Northern Ireland were approaching a conclusion, when people like Adams and Hume were discussing the headlines. In his book, O'Callaghan makes no attempt to disguise his skepticism about the prospects for peace offered by the agreement that was finally signed on Good Friday. He thinks Hume and the other forces of Irish moderation, both north and south of the border, have been "hacked" by IRA members like Adams and his deputy, Martin McGuire (now—individuals he describes as "a different breed, almost a new sport, possessing a hardness that is almost beyond the comprehension of most British politicians and southern Irish nationalists").

Whatever the accuracy of his judgments, O'Callaghan's views are at least worth contemplating. For it cannot be denied that he knows his subject. He spent most of his adult life peering into the youthful darkness that prompted a 15-year-old from rural Tyrone in County Kerry to enlist as a "boy-soldier" in the IRA. It has cost him dearly—his marriage and one other significant relationship with a woman, an even-greater IRA death threat, eight years in British jails, many years living, as he claims in *The Informer*, "a constant in every second of the day and night... in the company of people I despised... An innocent enough person, even let a murderer.

HARRY CAMP

Films

An eye for pleasure

THE GOVERNMENT

Directed by Sandra Goldbacher

MURDER DRIVER has made quite a career out of playing smart women who tell hotly in love with guys who can't handle her smarts or intelligence—most recently as Matt Damon's flirt girlfriend in *Good Will Hunting*. Driver's smokes, like her leading men, never seem to do her justice. But in *The Government*, an elegantly sex-bedecked ripper with a feminist bent, the 27-year-old actress finally gets to have it all—as a romantic heroine in the 1840s who discovers sex, art and subversion, inventing the art of photography while she's at it.

Driver plays Rosamund, a Scottish Jew in London who is forced to take dire measures after her father's death leaves her family destitute. Masquerading as a Christian,



Before sex, art, subversion and photography

she gets a job as a nurse on a bleak mission on a remote Scottish site—a kind of *Working Girl* by the sea. In this cold, alien and distinctly unfeminine world, Rosamund takes a lonely young girl, puts up with her condescending mother and falls

in love with the man of the house, a middle-aged scientist named Charles (The *Full Monty*'s Tom Wilkinson), who has figured out how to print photographs but cannot stop them from fading. Rosamund becomes his devoted laboratory assistant, discovers a foster, and in a flash she is exploring the entire world of photography.

This graphic-line romance plays in a dual between Romantic passion and Christian reformity. And as Rosamund coaxes Charles out of his shell, she has to lead all the raging hormones of his teenage son, Henry (Jonathan Rhys-Meyers), a scuffed, wildly androgynous Adam.

Although the story is archly conceived, British writer-director Sandra Goldbacher has a fine eye for the sensual moment. In this last scene alone, a film about the origin of film, she makes a compelling case for female voyeurism. This is one of those rare movies with more male than female nudity. And in a role that shows the full range of her powerhouse talent, Driver is dynamic.

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Peter C. Newman

Clinton has no choice now: he must resign

The *Globe and Mail* headline said it all: "U.S. recession adds luster, dollar rises to 66.3 cents on fears Lewinsky case will breed deep political turmoil." This is how insignificant a country we have become. The rise we get depends on the rise he got.

That was back on July 25, when our back was still not so far south, and the traders fled the American dollar to temporarily hoard the Japanese yen, the German mark, as well as our own currency.

How sad. Here we are, with a Prime Minister who plays golf while his country's money slides to the value of Monopoly paper, and it takes Maastricht to rescue us. Maybe we'll be back trading at par by the time all the dirty linen in the White House scandal is hung out to dry.

What's waiting here, apart from "Stick Willy" Clinton's reputation, is not just politicians, but the political system. That system is called democracy, which is poised in its true form by fewer than 50 countries. It's not perfect. Far from it. But as Winston Churchill rightly maintained, it's better than all these other forms that have been tried from time to time.

What mainly maintains the hideous viability of democratic governments is the personal values of its leaders. We don't need or want saints in charge of us, just the old decent man or woman who follows his or her sense of ethical conduct and provides an acceptable role model we can adopt or at least not be disgraced by.

Deprived of that, we sink deeper into cynicism and opt out of our citizenship obligations. That kind of despair was caught wonderfully in *Night Moves*, an Arthur Penn film in which Gene Hackman plays a hoary and burnouted private detective who spends most of his days watching football games on television. When asked by his companion what's wrong, he mutters, "This body's winning. One side just keeps losing slower than the other."

The breakdown of trust between the government and the governed is no longer limited to the radical poor or the discredited young. Perpetual resentment of authority can be felt across the land, as ordinarily placid middle-class Canadians accuse our leaders of lies and denied lies. How can anybody believe in democratic leadership when the guy who's running the world's largest, and in many ways most vibrant, democracy can't, apparently, keep it in his pants while sitting at his desk and trying to run the world?

Bill Clinton was elected and re-elected for two reasons: his Republican opponents seemed even less suitable for the job, and he promised to enact some progressive legislation, to be the kind of small-l liberal that Franklin Delano Roosevelt was and John

Kennedy aspired to be. (The best definition of a liberal was offered by another prime example of the species, former U.S. senator Eugene McCarthy, who explained: "A liberal is someone who throws a drowning man 50 feet from shore on a 20-foot rope while yelling, 'The net you made has halfway!'") Clinton's legislative record isn't that bleak, but the current investigation into his sex life threatens to expose him as a shallow opportunist willing to gamble the sanctity of his high office—for what? We don't really want to know, but will no doubt find out this week or next.

What we have here is a reversal of Pierre Trudeau's famous flourish, when he was revising Canada's Criminal Code, that "the state has no place in the bedrooms of the nation." Right. I say that the bedroom has no place in the nation's offices of state, either.

Lying comes easily to Clinton. He boasts, for a long time, he vehemently denied having had an affair with Gennifer Flowers, then recanted. In a separate case, he swore under oath that he hadn't propositioned Paula Jones. And now...

Most American commentators are advising the President to "come clean," to take the political risk of confessing what exactly happened, and live with the consequences. "By this I mean actually taking the best for what you have done, not putting on a show of fake penitence," wrote Meg Greenfield recently on the back page of *Newsweek*. "Teaching Marie—laying it all on others—is always what people find most unbecome in these affairs."

Maybe, but I don't think so. Leaving Clinton's marital vows to Hillary aside for the moment—which he himself certainly has done in the past—there is the question of values. What this is about is lying, not sex. Consensual sex between adults is not a crime.

But what should be a crime is lying to the people. Back in 1992, when he was first elected junior minister, Jean Chrétien announced that he would eliminate the GST and renegade NAFTA. When he did neither, people shrugged, and voted for him again in 1997. That's what political promises and policies are—lies, or at best, pragmatic statements of intent that may or may not be redempted. But there is a deeper issue here. It's the issue of character.

Politicians constantly underestimate voters, believing that if they smile often enough and tell us that all is well with the world ("Don't worry, be happy"), we'll keep quiet and continue voting for them. I like to think we might be getting smarter, even if they're not. It's time we began judging politicians not by their personalities—which can be altered by spin doctors and image consultants—but on the basis of their character, which is a much more profound matter.

When Bill Clinton finally has his sex, he should use these three little words: "I hereby resign."



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